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FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 013 *19 January 1984*

ARGENTINA

Alfonsin To Leave for Caracas 1 February B 1
Caputo Plans Weekend Departure for Rome Talks B 1
Habeas Corpus Filed for Former Bolivian Minister B 1
Chilean Air Force Lieutenant Requests Asylum B 1
Economy Minister Announces 12-Percent Pay Hikes B 2
PJ Federal Council Meets, Issues Declaration B 2

BOLIVIA

Siles Confirms 'Most' New Cabinet Members C 1
Discord Accompanies Appointments C 1
Foreign Minister on Issues With Argentina, Chile C 2
National Press Association Dissolved 17 Jan C 2
Government Rejects Blame C 2

BRAZIL

Shultz To Sign Science, Technology Exchange Pact D 1
[LATIN AMERICAN DAILY POST 18 Jan]
Kissinger 'Failed' To Follow Contadora Plan D 1
[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 13 Jan]
Iraqi Joint Commission Discusses Trade Relations D 2
Increased Arms Exports Forecast for 1984 [O GLOBO 15 Jan] D 2

CHILE

Finance Minister on Talks With U.S. Official E 1
Foreign Minister on Nunciature, Beagle, U.S. E 1
Nunciature Sends Note to Foreign Ministry E 2
Air Force Communique on Reports of Defector E 3
Investigation of Alleged Bolivian Border Deaths E 3
Radical Democrat Says Constitution Illegal E 3

COLOMBIA

Kidnapped U.S. Citizen Released by FARC F 1
Defense Minister Landazabal Reyes Resigns F 1
Betancur Displeased With Military F 1
New Defense Minister Appointed F 1

PARAGUAY

Kissinger Reports Said 'Auspicious, Stimulating' [ABC COLOR 14 Jan] H 1
Foreign Minister Saldivar Departs for Uruguay [ABC COLOR 18 Jan] H 1
Government Radio Program, ABC COLOR Dispute [HOY 15 Jan] H 2
Radio Director Held 7 Hours by Police [HOY 18 Jan] H 2
MOPOCO Member Returns After 16 Years in Exile [ABC COLOR 14 Jan] H 2
MOPOCO Vice President Returns 18 January [HOY 18 Jan] H 3

MOPOCO Leader on Support Since Exiles' Return [ABC COLOR 13 Jan] H 3
National Accord Statement on Exiles' Return [HOY 13 Jan] H 4
Liberal Party Repudiates Police Torture [HOY 15 Jan] H 5
Briefs: 1983 Trade Deficit H 5

PERU

Economy Minister Delivers Address to Nation J 1
Police Kill 17 'Subversives,' Arrest Two Women J 2
Shining Path Kills Peasants in Apurimac J 2

URUGUAY

Reportage on Unions' 18 Jan General Strike K 1
Report Shows 'No Activity' K 1
Government Officials Hold Meeting K 1
Government Bans PIT K 2
Strike Enjoys Broad Support K 3

VENEZUELA

Foreign Minister-Designate on Kissinger Report L 1
Six Presidents Expected at Lusinchi Inauguration [EL NACIONAL 6 Jan] L 1

MEXICO

Spanish Legislative Delegation Making Visit M 1
Sepulveda on Contadora Cooperation M 1
Spanish Official on Trade M 1
Spanish Petroleum Official Meets Pemex Chief M 1
Swedish Delegation Visits; Projects To Increase M 2
Parties Allege Freedom of Expression Violations M 2
[EL UNIVERSAL 16 Jan]

PANAMA

University Students Burn U.S. Army Vehicle N 1
President Turns Down Electoral Code Reforms N 1
[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 18 Jan]
Defense Forces To Initiate 'Operation Cope' N 2

CENTRAL AMERICA

BELIZE

Prime Minister Price Announces New Cabinet P 1
Vernon Sees 'Communist' Shift in Price Government P 2
[Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE 15 Jan]

COSTA RICA

Monge Confirms Resignation of Cabinet Ministers P 3
Gutierrez Protests Nicaraguan Border Incursions P 3

EL SALVADOR

FMLN Attack on Bridge, Retaliation Reported P 4
UPI Correspondent Said Missing in Chalatenango P 4

U.S. 'Secret Document' on Military Aid Assailed [Farabundo Marti] P 5
Reagan Human Rights Report to Congress Scored [Farabundo Marti] P 6
FPL Commander Guerra on 'Demoralized' Army [Farabundo Marti] P 6
Army Retreat in Chalatenango Proves 'Low Morale' [Farabundo Marti] P 7

GUATEMALA

Government Extends Amnesty Benefits 60 Days P 8
Kissinger Central America Report Berated P 8

HONDURAS

Clash at El Amatillo Customs Post Reported P 9

NICARAGUA

Nunez Calls for Return to L.A. Parliament P 9
Belgium, Sweden Affirm Support for Nicaragua [BARRICADA 13 Jan] P 10
Junta To Appoint Delegates to Parties Assembly P 10
Parties Law May End Opposition Alliance P 10
Council Approves 10 Articles P 11
Soviet Tanker Delivers Crude Oil Shipment P 11
LA PRENSA Director Reports New Media Censorship [Bogota EL TIEMPO 10 Jan] P 12
FDN Repudiates FSLN's Call to Elections [San Jose] P 12

CUBA

Commentary Criticizes Kissinger Commission Report Q 1
PCP Secretary General Alvaro Cunhal Arrives Q 2
Meets With Montane Q 2
Rodriguez Meets With CEMA Delegation Head Q 2
Socialist Scientific Acadamies To Meet in Havana Q 3
AALAPSO Sponsors Salvadoran Solidarity Meeting Q 3
Party Holds Profitability of Enterprises Meeting Q 3
FAR Leader Interviewed Q 3
Commissions on Problem Q 4
Castro Attends Closing Q 6
Further on Closing Q 7
Military-Industrial Enterprise Dedicated Q 8
Chilean Officer Requests Asylum in Argentina Q 9
Colombia's Lloreda Caicedo Scores Kissinger Report Q 9
Ecuadoran Foreign Ministry Reports Clash With Peru Q 9

CARIBBEAN

DOMINICA

Prime Minister Charles Views OECS, Caricom S 1
Government Denies DLP Charges of Arms Buildup S 2

GRENADA

CCL Leader Says Grenadians 'Welcomed' Invasion S 2
Students Leave Studies in Cuba, Return to Grenada S 4

JAMAICA

Seaga Spurns Appeals for Early Elections S 5

SURINAME

Unrest Subsides; Bank Employees Resume Work U 1
Buses Confiscated, Permits Revoked U 1

ALFONSIN TO LEAVE FOR CARACAS 1 FEBRUARY

PY181751 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] President Raul Alfonsin will leave for Venezuela on 1 February accompanied by the head of the Chamber of Deputies, Juan Carlos Pugliese, and by Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, among others. Alfonsin is going to Caracas on an official invitation to attend the presidential inauguration of Venezuelan President-elect Jaime Lusinchi on 2 February. Alfonsin is expected to return to Buenos Aires late Friday, 3 February, or early Saturday.

According to government sources, Alfonsin is going to invite Peronist legislator Julio Amoedo to joint the delegation. So far the people who are to accompany the chief of state are Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, Juan Carlos Pugliese, Adolfo Gass, head of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Jose Ignacio Lopez, the presidential spokesman.

CAPUTO PLANS WEEKEND DEPARTURE FOR ROME TALKS

PY181211 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Dante Caputo will leave for Rome this weekend. In the Italian capital he will sign with his Chilean counterpart, Jaime del Valle, a peace and friendship treaty between the two countries on the southern border problem. Albino Gomez, Foreign Ministry press director, said that the foreign minister will be accompanied by a working delegation made up of Foreign Ministry officials. Therefore, there will be no special communiques. Gomez made these remarks because of reports from Congress that invitations had been extended to legislators.

HABEAS CORPUS FILED FOR FORMER BOLIVIAN MINISTER

PY181103 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2000 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 17 Jan (DYN) -- It has been learned from court sources that the attorneys for former Bolivian Interior Minister Luis Arce Gomez today filed a writ of habeas corpus asking that he be guaranteed continued political asylum in Argentina. The writ of habeas corpus was filed by the attorneys Francisco Retondo and Isidoro Ventura Mayoral before Federal Judge Eduardo Marquardt on the day before the date scheduled for Arce Gomez to make his monthly report to the police on his place of residence.

CHILEAN AIR FORCE LIEUTENANT REQUESTS ASYLUM

PY181930 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1301 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Mendoza, 18 Jan (TELAM) -- A Chilean military pilot has reportedly asked the Mendoza authorities for political asylum in Argentina. The pilot reportedly escaped from Chile a few days ago because he opposed the Chilean military regime. The report was made today by the local daily MENDOZA, which quoted unidentified reliable sources. MENDOZA reported that the Chilean pilot is staying in the School of Noncommissioned Policemen of Mendoza and that he would be taken to Buenos Aires in the next few hours to be put at the disposal of the Interior Ministry.

The daily said that the refugee, a Chilean Air Force lieutenant named Barrera, arrived in Mendoza a few days ago after avoiding agents of the National Intelligence Center (CNI) of Augusto Pinochet's regime. In Mendoza, where he arrived by land along with his wife, the pilot reportedly realized that he was being pursued by CNI agents, and therefore he asked for help fromthe Mendoza authorities. Mendoza Minister of Government Leon Victor Chade has ordered Under Secretary of Government Ariel Ranchilio to handle the case.

A major part of Mendoza's report says that the military officer is willing to disclose information about a Chilean espionage ring which has been formed in Mendoza. The report adds that more details about the case will be released in the next few hours.

ECONOMY MINISTER ANNOUNCES 12-PERCENT PAY HIKES

PY182135 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun today announced a 12-percent pay increase for the private sector to go into effect 1 January. Grinspun spoke to journalists shortly after the cabinet meeting ended. Grinspun said that economic topics were discussed and that an interministerial commission will be formed to determine which state-run enterprises can be liquidated.

PJ FEDERAL COUNCIL MEETS, ISSUES DECLARATION

PY131442 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1148 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 13 Jan (NA) -- The Justicialist Party [PJ] Federal Council, which is made up of the governors of the 12 provinces where the PJ won the elections, has analyzed the PJ situation and started to draw up a report on the first month of the constitutional government. It expresses its "deep concern over the economic policy implemented by the executive branch," a policy which does not seem to be any different from the nefarious policy implemented by Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz, which destroyed the national productive apparatus."

The PJ Federal Council, which is made up of one delegate from each province, including the 12 governors, met yesterday and wrote a declaration urging the government to "stop implementing discriminatory policies which favor party interests rather than the interests of the country." The document also calls for the implementation of an "authentic federalism," and it "categorically repudiates the union reorganization law," noting that it "clearly seeks to break up the organized labor movement."

The council also resolved to draw up a political strategy proposal for the Justicialist movement, which will be submitted to former President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron and to the PJ National Council. The PJ Federal Council concluded by announcing that it will meet again in Rio Gallegos on 10 February. The Peronist provincial representatives issued their critical declaration a few minutes before a meeting that the 12 PJ governors held with Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli.

SILES CONFIRMS 'MOST' NEW CABINET MEMBERS

PY190039 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jan 84

[From Government House]

[Text] President Hernan Siles Zuazo has decided to confirm most cabinet members. This was disclosed a few minutes ago by official spokesman Mario Rueda Pena. The ministerial cabinet that will assist President Siles Zuazo in this new stage will be sworn in at Government House tomorrow, Thursday, 19 January.

The ministers of energy and hydrocarbons and of urban development and housing have not been appointed yet.

[Begin recording by unidentified official]

Foreign Minister	Jose Ortiz Mercado
Interior Minister	Federico Alvarez Plata
Defense Minister	Col Manuel Cardenas Mallo
Finance Minister	Fernando Baptista
Planning Minister	Roberto Jordan Pando
Aeronautics Minister	General Antonio Arnez
Transport Minister	Hernando Poppe
Education Minister	Alcides Alvarado
Industry Minister	Oscar Bonifaz
Labor Minister	Horst Grebe Lopez
Public Health Minister	Javier Torres
Campesino Affairs Minister	Jorge Medina
Integration Minister	Jorge Agreda
Mining Minister	Carlos Carvajal
Minister Secretary General of the Presidency	Benjamin Miguel
Information Minister	Mario Rueda Pena

It must be noted that the names of the ministers of energy and urban development will be disclosed tomorrow. [end recording]

Discord Accompanies Appointments

PY190240 Paris AFP in Spanish 0201 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Excerpts] La Paz, 18 Jan (AFP) -- It was reported today that the installation of the new ministers of President Hernan Siles Zuazo's cabinet, whose posts have been vacant for 34 days, has been postponed until tomorrow, Thursday.

The postponement was apparently due to disagreements between the chief of state and the pro-Soviet Bolivian Communist Party (PCB), whose leaders have objected to the Christian Democratic Party (PDC) increasing its participation in the government from three to four ministers.

The PDC -- which already has Minister Secretary Benjamin Miguel, Integration Minister Jorge Agreda, and the housing and urban affairs post (to be appointed) in the cabinet -- has increased its participation with the appointment of Oscar Bonifaz as industry and commerce minister.

The appointment of the new cabinet will take place in an atmosphere of tension caused by an article published today by THE WASHINGTON POST, which contends that President Reagan might be considering the possibility of changing his policy toward Bolivia due to its critical internal situation.

According to this report, U.S. Ambassador to Bolivia Edwin Corr, who is in the U.S. capital, reported that in 1983 he had to make a great effort to prevent two coups against the president. It is also feared that congressional opponents will intensify their criticism of the executive branch in the face of the confirmation of ministers who were censured by the senate in December. According to congressional practice, the chief of state is morally obliged to replace those ministers who do not have the confidence of senators and deputies.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON ISSUES WITH ARGENTINA, CHILE

PY181247 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Jose Ortiz Mercado made statements to the press after leaving Government House, where he met with the president to report on his diplomatic mission to Quito, Ecuador, where he participated in the Latin American Economic Conference. Asked about the decision of the Argentine Government to postpone its debt payment to Bolivia, he said that he would immediately contact the responsible officials to find out the reasons for that decision.

The foreign minister also referred to a report from a university official in Oruro regarding faulty border demarcation between Chile and Bolivia at border marker 34, stating that the subject will be dealt with by the Interior and Defense Ministries and that a report will then be released.

NATIONAL PRESS ASSOCIATION DISSOLVED 17 JAN

PY172025 Paris AFP in Spanish 1433 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] La Paz, 17 Jan (AFP) -- The National Press Association [ANP] has been dissolved because of lack of guarantees. This information was released today by the members of this association, which includes the owners of the Bolivian newspapers. A recent decision of the Supreme Court of Justice intended to oblige the ANP to pay press workers economic benefits despite the fact that -- according to its directors -- the association was only created for the purpose of defending freedom of the press. The ANP regretted its dissolution, especially by a democratic regime such as that of President Hernan Siles Zuazo.

Government Rejects Blame

PY181315 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The Information Ministry has released a statement to the news media regarding a communique, signed by newspaper directors, reporting the dissolution of the National Press Association [ANP]. The four-point ministry statement gives the position of Hernan Siles Zuazo's government on this matter. The first point of the statement, signed by Minister Mario Rueda Pena, states: The disappearance of the ANP cannot be blamed, directly or indirectly, on the government. It is the result of a voluntary decision by the owners of the newspapers following a Supreme Court decision on an appeal between the press workers and the companies owning the papers. Since 10 October 1982 we have been living in a state of justice which, among other things, stipulates the independence of the judicial branch. The document ends by saying that the government deplores the dissolution of the ANP and confirms its respect for freedom of the press in accordance with the conditions stated in the Constitution and laws of the country.

SHULTZ TO SIGN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGE PACT

PY182145 Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICAN DAILY POST in English 18 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Brasilia (DAILY POST) -- A new agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between Brazil and the United States will be signed Feb 6 during Secretary of State George Shultz' visit, according to a top Itamaraty source. The source said the agreement would substitute another signed by both countries in 1971 and which involved only cooperation in the areas of basic sciences.

This will be one of the most important agreements to be signed during Shultz' visit to Brazil, the source said. Other accords will involve nuclear, military, and economic interchange. The agreements are a result of studies being carried out by the five Brazil-United States work groups created during President Reagan's visit here in November of 1982.

The new science and technology agreement will include an exchange of industrial technology by Brazilian and American companies as well as interchange in the fields of agriculture, health, oceanography, natural resources and industrial engineering. The agreement to be signed by Shultz and Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro will create a joint Brazil-United States committee in the area of scientific and technological cooperation, which did not exist in the previous accord, the source said.

KISSINGER 'FAILED' TO FOLLOW CONTADORA PLAN

PY161940 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Spanish 13 Jan 84 p 3

[From the "Notes and Information" page: "Document Reveals Salutary Change"]

[Excerpts] The Kissinger Commission, which has been charged with evaluating the Central American crisis and presenting suggestions to implement a bipartisan U.S. policy in that turbulent but strategic region, has just handed over to President Ronald Reagan the conclusions that it has reached after 42 sessions and consultations with nearly 500 persons interested in the problems that wrack the Central American countries. It is a comprehensive, 132-page document, and the fact that Central America receives a serious diplomatic attention from the United States by itself shows a salutary change. The effort of the Commission to find a bipartisan consensus may lead to an important debate, which will begin now when Reagan would have liked it to be finished. The impression one gets is that Kissinger steered the consultations and the writing of the report so as to provide support for the policy that Reagan had set in motion. Kissinger, however, could not eliminate divergent viewpoints from the document. Above all, the report failed to outline a policy in line with the position of the Contadora Group (which represents some sort of consensus of countries in the region that are more interested in the solution of problems) that is acceptable to both Cuba and Nicaragua, the countries exploiting if not causing the crisis.

The space at our disposal does not allow us to comment on all aspects of the Kissinger Report, which is undeniably important. Its suggestions, however, could or should be adjusted to the 21-point Contadora Group program. These points are very specific and pragmatic regarding the removal of foreign bases, military advisers, and instruments of destabilization and subversion which, leaving aside the socioeconomic situation of the Central American countries, are operating as integral parts of the East-West conflict.

IRAQI JOINT COMMISSION DISCUSSES TRADE RELATIONS

PY190119 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] At Itamaraty Brazilian Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro and Iraqi Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali today opened the Brazilian-Iraqi Joint Commission meeting that is scheduled to continue until tomorrow. The two delegations are reviewing the main points of interest in bilateral relations as well as the recommendations made by the ad hoc commission established during Saraiva Guerreiro's visit to Baghdad in September 1983. According to Hasan 'Ali, the establishment of that commission permitted an exchange of ideas between officials of the two countries in addition to strengthening cooperation between the two friendly nations. 'Ali revealed Iraq's desire to import more Brazilian products, especially services, equipment, food and vehicles. According to Saraiva Guerreiro the two countries must maintain the present level and at the same time increase the exchange of goods and services. [recorded passage indistinct] Industry and Commerce Minister Camilo Pena, who also attended the meeting, also supports the strengthening of Brazilian-Iraqi trade relations. [recorded passage indistinct]

INCREASED ARMS EXPORTS FORECAST FOR 1984

PY172335 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 15 Jan 84 p 31

[Text] Sao Jose dos Campos -- Brazilian arms industries last year exported approximately $600 million worth of weapons and in 2 years time hope to reach exports valuing $1 billion per year. This will strengthen the country's position as one of the five most important arms exporters in the world and will open new markets for other Brazilian products. Arms sales have had an important role in reducing the country's deficit and will now increase the surplus in the trade balance because they have become the first products to be sold on the basis of compensatory credits for the purchase of oil from Arab countries.

More than 40 percent of Brazilian arms exports were made by ENGESA [Special Engineers, Inc] In 1983 ENGESA sold arms worth $270 million on the foreign market, while Avibras Aeroespacial and EMBRAER [Brazilian Aeronautics Company] made most of the remaining exports. Last year arms industries experienced an average sales increase of over 200 percent. However, this increase was accompanied by large investments to develop technologies, to cover bank loans, and to produce more sophisticated systems and components in association with foreign enterprises. Consequently, the general balance sheet of this sector showed a profit which, on the whole, was very low.

The businessmen of this sector agree that 1984 is the key year for Brazil's consolidation as one of the main arms suppliers for the Third World, a decision which has already been taken by the government. For this purpose the IMBEL [Ordnance Industry], that belongs to the Arms Ministry, has just finished a market survey and drawn up a list of priorities that will enable a more efficient supervision and guidance of the productive and commercial effort of the Brazilian arms sector. At the same time this sector will be more energetic in the international market this year.

The goal of the IMBEL directorate -- headed by Jose Luis Whitaker, who is also president of ENGESA -- is to develop and deepen, as of now, coordination with and influence on other arms industries in order to prevent the overlapping of efforts.

FINANCE MINISTER ON TALKS WITH U.S. OFFICIAL

PY162030 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1530 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Finance Minister Carlos Caceres has announced that measures are being studied to solve the problem of loans based on the inflation-adjusted unit for housing loans. The minister made this statement at the end of a meeting that U.S. Under Secretary for Monetary Affairs Beryl Sprinkel held with Chilean economic authorities.

Regarding his meeting with the U.S. under secretary, Minister Caceres said that they had mainly discussed the negotiations with the IMF and Chilean-U.S. economic relations. The finance minister said that the U.S. official was impressed by the fact that after a difficult adjustment period the Chilean economy is now attaining a sustained reactivation based on realistic economic conduct.

U.S. Under Secretary for Monetary Affairs Beryl Sprinkel said that the Chilean economy has experienced a real growth over the past few months, adding that this growth will continue this year and into the following year. Sprinkel made this comment at a press conference held after his meeting with the members of the Chilean-U.S. trade group. Finance Minister Carlos Caceres, Economy Minister Andres Passicot, Central Bank President Hernan Felipe Errazuriz, and other high-ranking authorities also attended.

Washington's under secretary for monetary affairs expressed his belief that the stage of economic growth entered by Chile will help to halt the unemployment problem. Sprinkel said that stable economic conditions and a low inflation rate would also help to solve this problem. The U.S. official said he was against quick solutions, noting that measures of this kind are only temporary. He said that Chile needs permanent solutions that permit a sustained recovery.

On foreign loans for Chile, the U.S. official said that the U.S. cannot impose policies on foreign banks because the U.S. is not their owner. However, he admitted that the U.S. can inform banking institutions of favorable changes in Chile. Sprinkel added that political and economic stability is required for foreign banks to grant lines of credit.

As for the international financial situation, he said that the crisis that was threatening it has been largely overcome. Sprinkel said that the most difficult part of the recovery process was the negotiation of an agreement for debt rescheduling.

The U.S. official said that the situation should be counteracted this year through two measures. He remarked that debtor countries should implement clear economic policies while simultaneously attaining noninflationary growth with markets open to industrialized countries.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON NUNCIATURE, BEAGLE, U.S.

PY181306 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has said that the four persons who are in the nunciature are not political refugees. He reported that the situation remains unchanged and that they have not left the building. Asked about two men and two women who burst into the nunciature, he replied:

[Begin Del Valle recording] They are still in the nunciature. I want to inform you that these persons are not political refugees because there are no provisions granting the right of political asylum in the case of the nunciature. They are merely persons who have sought shelter inside the nunciature building, and they are not entitled to any juridical protection. Therefore, this is only a de facto situation. They are under the provisional protection of the nunciature. Meanwhile, both the nunciature and the Foreign Ministry are studying the case. [end recording]

Minister Del Valle also announced that he will travel to Rome on (?Thursday) to attend a meeting to be held at the Vatican next Monday. He said he has received instructions from the president of the republic, who was in turn briefed on how the two countries have narrowed their differences over the Beagle Channel dispute. Asked to give his opinion on the meeting scheduled for 23 January, he said:

[Begin Del Valle recording] I believe it will be a very significant step because the Holy See will solemnly announced that the two countries have narrowed their differences. Therefore, a new stage in the mediation process will begin. [end recording

Concerning his conversation with U.S. Ambassador to Chile James Theberge, Del Valle said that different issues were addressed, including the papal mediation. He also said that they addressed an issue that is important for Chile, namely, the establishment of a system of consultation on bilateral relations. In this regard, he explained that the two States Department officials will visit Chile in March 1984 to study the final details of the system.

NUNCIATURE SENDS NOTE TO FOREIGN MINISTRY

PY182045 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Relay by Carmen Castro]

[Text] Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle a few minutes ago officially disclosed that during the past few hours the Apostolic Nunciature of Holy See has sent the Foreign Ministry a note regarding the situation of four persons who are in the nunciature in Santiago, where they have sought asylum. It should be pointed out that the foreign minister stated that the note was strictly confidential and that its contents are being analyzed (?in keeping) with the Foreign Ministry's procedures.

Del Valle said that the subject of the note is serious and, therefore, the problem of the persons seeking asylum requires some time for study. He also stated that these persons' cases and backgrounds will be submitted to the Foreign Ministry this afternoon.

Monsignor Bernardino Vineda, president of the Episcopal Conference, has made a statement regarding this event. Monsignor Vineda referred to the situation at the Apostolic Nuncio and said that, on behalf of the Chilean Episcopal conference, I voice our fraternal sympathy and solidarity in view of the difficult times being experienced to his excellency, the nuncio, and the personnel of the nunciature.

The communique also protests the violence to which the representative of the Holy See was subject. The episocopal conference communique then states: I request Chilean Catholics to pray until this serious and lamentable situation finds a satisfactory solution.

AIR FORCE COMMUNIQUE ON REPORTS OF DEFECTOR

PY181935 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] The Chilean Air Force [FACH] has made it clear that no Air Force officer surnamed Barrera is now in a bordering country. The FACH thus clarified reports datelined Argentina that a FACH lieutenant had asked for political asylum in that country. In an official communique, the FACH points out that at present, no FACH officer surnamed Barrera is in a bordering country.

Concerning the above reports, the FACH notes that the person might be a technician who retired on 7 January 1981 while holding the rank of lieutenant and whose name is Jose Eduardo Belmar Barrera. The communique explains that Barrera crossed the Libertadores Pass toward Argentina on 1 September 1983 and that he has not yet returned.

Police sources report that Belmar Barrera, who faces charges for common crimes, fled to Argentina, and that a court order was issued to force him to stay within the court's jurisdiction. The order was issued on 1 October 1983 due to a case brought against him on charges of swindling and writing bad checks involving more than 100,000 pesos. Police report that he committed the crime in Rancagua against several professional authors.

INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGED BOLIVIAN BORDER DEATHS

PY181925 Paris AFP in Spanish 1345 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Santiago, 18 Jan (AFP) -- It was officially disclosed today that the Chilean Government will investigate the alleged death of one or several Bolivian travelers who crossed a mine field on the border. Foreign Relations Under Secretary Humberto Julio said that the reports received by the Foreign Ministry are inaccurate and that the Defense Ministry has been requested to find our whether they are true. The first reaction of Chilean officials, in view of the charges, was to state that the spreading of reports on alleged deaths in Coipasa could conceal the desire to reverse the easing of tensions between the two countries.

RADICAL DEMOCRAT SAYS CONSTITUTION ILLEGAL

PY182000 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Excerpt] (Angel Faivovich), president of the Radical Democratic Party [PRD], has confirmed that (Jorge Ovalle), member of the party's political commission, has asked to be excused from his party post until the PRD decides that the 1980 Constitution is illegal. (Faivovich) pointed out that the request is not an essential issue since the PRD advocates a return to democracy by amending the 1980 Constitution following the procedures established by the law. (Faivovich) pointed out that (Ovalle)'s request was resonable, but we are not going to say whether the Constitution is illegal or not. He asserted that we consider that we have a Constitution and will request its amendment in order to reach a democratic regime.

KIDNAPPED U.S. CITIZEN RELEASED BY FARC

PA181835 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1822 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Bogota, 18 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- The police have reported that Martin Stendal, the 26-year-old U.S. citizen who was kidnapped in August by the self-styled Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), was released a few hours ago. Stendal, who has lived in Colombia for several years and who owns a ranch in the jurisdiction of San Martin municipality, in the Department of Meta, 230 km east of the capital, was released after payment of a large but undetermined ransom was made. Stendal is a pilot who also engages in farming and livestock activities in the eastern plains region.

DEFENSE MINISTER LANDAZABAL REYES RESIGNS

PA190037 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0016 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Bogota, 18 Jan (EFE) -- Colombian Defense Minister General Fernando Landazabal Reyes tonight presented his resignation to President Belisario Betancur. General Landazabal publicly announced his decision immediately after meeting with the military commanders of the Colombian ground, sea, and air forces in his office at the Defense Ministry.

Betancur Displeased With Military

PA190256 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0140 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Bogota, 18 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- A presidential spokesman has announced that tonight Defense Minister Fernando Landazabal Reyes presented his resignation to Colombian President Belisario Betancur.

Landazabal Reyes presented his resignation during a 2-hour meeting with Betancur, after the president had delivered a speech at a Security Council meeting with members of the military high command Betancur today reprimanded the military high command for their recent public statements, and said that "the Armed Forces should not have an influence on nor participate in politics."

The defense minister, the commanding general of the Armed Forces, and the Army commander recently issued statements against the peace efforts being carried out by a government commission with the country's guerrilla groups. The commission was acting on Betancur's orders. Landazabal Reyes and the military commanders said they "would fight the subversives with weapons.".

New Defense Minister Appointed

PA190334 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0321 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Bogota, 18 Jan (DPA) -- President Belisario Betancur tonight appointed General Gustavo Matamoros D'Costa as new defense minister, replacing Fernando Landazabal, who resigned this afternoon. Matamoros D'Costa, who until his appointment was commander in chief of the Armed Forces, will reportedly assume office tomorrow before President Betancur. The presidental palace tonight announced the appointment of the new minister, accepting at the same time the resignation of Fernando Landazabal.

KISSINGER REPORT SAID 'AUSPICIOUS, STIMULATING'

PY171516 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 14 Jan 84 p 8

[Editorial: "The Best Weapon Against Communism"]

[Text] Extremist ideas quite frequently thrive in environments in which social injustice, discrimination, and arbitrary rule prevail. In other words, the seeds of totalitarianism -- Marxist or whatever -- are not likely to sprout, grow, and multiply wherever there is a climate of respect for individual rights. A good example of this can be found in countries where, because freedom exists and injustice and crimes do not go unpunished, communism is restricted to an inconsequential group, which may sometimes grow even smaller.

There are those who believe -- some in good faith, convinced by propaganda -- that only Marxists claim their rights to strike, to have better salaries; that only Marxists demand that injustice and arbitrary rule stop, that government officials be held accountable, that wealth be better distributed, and so forth. Thus characterized, the communist militant is greatly favored by propaganda which concurrently serves to weaken the pillars of democracy.

The U.S. Government now seems to understand that the fight against communism cannot be reduced to giving military aid to threatened countries, aid which many times assists to curb freedom. Likewise, the battle against hunger, illiteracy, unemployment, infant mortality, and other social problems can no longer be waged by means other than a consistent policy, with freedom and justice. That is at least what comes out in a report issued by a bipartisan commission headed by former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. Without ignoring the need to bolster democratic regimes, the report recommends a 5-year emergency stabilization program with a price tag of $24 billion, half of it to be paid by the United States. In the area of social assistance, it suggests sanitary and educational reforms, including food supplies.

Such a policy, although tailored to the interests of the sponsoring country, is auspicious and stimulating. Our old-fashioned system of fighting communism with speeches and weapons will hardly be successful over the long term. It may reduce the volume of the protesting voices, but it will hardly silence those voices or reduce their number. As long as injustice and corruption are allowed to prevail, as long as persons are held in custody without due process, and as long as the country's social body continues deteriorating because of the vices it has contracted, fighting communism our way will just waste precious, irreplaceable time. Thus, we will only greatly damage the very image of the fight against totalitarianism.

Therefore, we should also agree that the fight against communism has to be primarily carried out against the injustice in which it grows. That fight has to be waged with schools, food, hospitals, jobs, honesty, and patriotism. This way we will contribute to eliminating disparities which provide the environment of discontent in which the Marxist flourishes so easily. Fortunately the Kissinger commission understands this after observing on location that needs of one of the world's most explosive regions. Today these needs call for priority attention.

FOREIGN MINISTER SALDIVAR DEPARTS FOR URUGUAY

PY181500 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 18 Jan 84 p 10

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Carlos Augusto Saldivar yesterday traveled to Montevideo. This week he will have high-level contacts with the Uruguayan Government to discuss bilateral relations.

Special emphasis will be placed on reaching an agreement on the pending question of granting Paraguay a free zone in the port of Nueva Palmira, which is considered the most convenient for our country.

GOVERNMENT RADIO PROGRAM, ABC COLOR DISPUTE

PY171356 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 15 Jan 84 p 6

[Excerpt] "The Voice of the Colorado Party" [government radio program] has reported to the Inter-American Press Association (IAPA) that the newspaper ABC COLOR has threatened "to file criminal charges against the people responsible for the radio program." The report, signed by Alejandro Caceres Almada, was addressed to IAPA President Horacio Aguirre in answer to the ABC COLOR accusations made before a court a few weeks ago regarding threats made by the radio program.

RADIO DIRECTOR HELD 7 HOURS BY POLICE

PY181539 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 18 Jan 84 p 12

[Text] Radio Nanduti Director Humberto Rubin was summoned yesterday by the Police Investigative Department at 1100. He was held until 1800, but no reason was given for the summons. He indicated to HOY, "I was summoned for 1100 and I arrived right on time. Once I got there I was taken to a room with a private bathroom where I waited for a meeting because I was told that someone wanted to talk to me. I was fed, I was not ill-treated, and later I was taken to meet officer Cantero who said to me: 'Go and make a better radio program.' That was all. The reason for my detention was not explained to me. I said to officer Cantero that I wanted to know what I did wrong, that I had no idea, but he did not answer. He said: 'Go and make a better radio program.' Therefore, I do not know what this is all about."

Radio Nanduti interviewed journalist Alcibiades Gonzalez Del Valle yesterday morning who explained his position regarding a disagreement with the newspaper PATRIA. Asked if this was the reason for his detention, Rubin said he had no idea. He added: "The only thing I can say is that the attention I received was marvelous. They all treated me very well."

MOPOCO MEMBER RETURNS AFTER 16 YEARS IN EXILE

PY142205 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 14 Jan 84 p 7

[Excerpt] "I have been trying to return to my country for the last 16 years and now I have finally made it. I am happy to be back in Paraguay, hoping that all Paraguayans living in exile will gradually return to their homes." These remarks were made by Quintin Gonzalez, member of the Colorado Popular Movement, who returned to the country yesterday. Gonzalez entered the country through Puerto Falcon, where he was welcomed by Waldino Ramon Lovera and Faustino Centurion in addition to relatives and friends.

Gonzalez arrived in Puerto Falcon at 0945 where he was treated with great courtesy by police and customs officials. After fulfilling the usual customs requirements, he was greeted by his mother and wife.

MOPOCO VICE PRESIDENT RETURNS 18 JANUARY

PY190054 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 18 Jan 84 p 6

[Excerpt] Eduardo San Martin, MOPOCO's [Popular Colorado Movement] vice president, arrived yesterday in Paraguay from Posadas, Argentina. San Martin entered Paraguay through the port of Encarnacion at approximately 1030, arriving on the ferry which links Posadas with Encarnacion. San Martin arrived in Asuncion late in the afternoon. The following persons met San Martin in Encarnacion: MOPOCO members Waldino R. Lovera, Faustino Centurion, and Julio Cesar Vasconcellos; Juan Carlos Zaldivar and Oscar Aguilera representing the Authentic Radical Liberal Party; and Doctor Benitez Florentin, for the National Accord.

Waldino Lovera stressed the "extraordinary police measures" surrounding San Martin's return. "We were escorted by two vans carrying eight plainclothesmen, and by two motorcycles carrying two policemen each." Lovera also noted that they were unable to get in touch with San Martin either at the port or at the customhouse. They could contact him only after San Martin had met Itapua's executive branch delegates at approximately 1115.

MOPOCO LEADER ON SUPPORT SINCE EXILES' RETURN

PY131519 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 13 Jan 84 p 9

[Text] Miguel A. Gonzalez Casabianca, head of the Colorado Popular Movement [MOPOCO], evaluating the first days of the movement's leaders in Paraguay, yesterday said that "the support that we have received from our fellow partisans and the signs of solidarity and sympathy, despite the regime's intimidating attitude, show us that the dormant ideals of the MOPOCO have gained a new impulse.

Gonzalez Casabianca yesterday returned to Buenos Aires, but he said that he would return in about 10 days to continue working within the movement. Regarding the factors which contributed to the main MOPOCO leaders' return to the country, free of difficulties, Gonzalez Casabianca said that he believes that a series of combined internal and external factors caused the regime to allow their return. The politician said that "the struggle for the return of those living in exile organized within the country by National Accord, the Paraguayan Episcopal Conference, and other organizations for the defense of human rights gradually made the people aware of the urgent need to do away with that scourge of our political life." He also pointed out that the Argentine political opening also contributed, "because our country cannot live isolated within that context and the regime was forced to make concessions in view of the positive changes taking place in neighboring countries."

Asked how the MOPOCO had benefited politically during the first weeks of its main leaders' return to the country, he answered that "despite the unconstitutional conditions set by the government and the intimidating vigilance, we have gained valuable experience since our return to the country."

"Although all the conditions which allow classifying the Paraguayan Government as totalitarian and repressive still exist, the support received from our fellow partisans has been satisfactory despite the MOPOCO's long ostracism and the dictatorship's efforts to wipe us out."

The head of the MOPOCO believes that the support that this movement has received is an answer to the "string of insults with which the official sector is reacting to a natural event such as the presence of Paraguayan citizens in their own country."

When he was asked about the future of the MOPOCO within the Colorado Party and the power structure, he said that the future of the movement is linked to the future of the Colorado Party. He added: "Naturally, the task is going to be difficult because the official sector of the Colorado Party does not intend to change the situation of political stagnation and the rigid policy of the party structure."

Gonzalez Casabianca said, "That is why one should be clear. We will continue to insist that democracy does not exist in Paraguay. The conditions are typical of a regime where neither a state of law nor democracy exists. Anyway, our struggle is carried out within that framework and we will work according to our possibilities within the Colorado Party, seeking to recover its internal liberty and self-determination and, at the same time, we will work within the National Accord, seeking harmonious coexistence among all Paraguayan citizens." He pointed out that this is not the exclusive task of parties; it is the duty of the entire community.

Gonzalez Casabianca ended by stating that "the university, students, peasants, and the church should support the task of the parties because the country's social and political situation will gradually worsen and even reach dangerous limits if we do not have democracy."

NATIONAL ACCORD STATEMENT ON EXILES' RETURN

PY140246 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 13 Jan 84 p 6

[Text] The coordinating board of the National Accord has released a statement which reads as follows: "The National Accord deems the presence of the MOPOCO [Colorado Popular Movement] members in our country, after enduring 25 years of undeserved hardships in exile, a positive step of the utmost importance for national democratization. The MOPOCO members have clearly voiced their goal of seeking the reconciliation of all Paraguayans by means of respectful dialogue, without hatred and scorn. It is quite obvious that the solution to domestic problems cannot be found without the active participation of the Colorado Party given the staunch and longstanding support it has from a large portion of the citizenry."

"By pledging to struggle to institute intraparty democracy in the National Republican Association [Colorado Party] and by seeking to reconcile party actions with the tenets of liberty and solidarity that are written into the party's charter and are supported by republican authenticity, and despite hardships of these MOPOCO members, these leaders are contributing to the construction of a Paraguayan state with the sound structure of a stable democracy, and with guarantees of progress, freedom, and tolerance for all sectors. The significance of the MOPOCO efforts to live up to their statements and aspirations calls for the support of all democrats, regardless of their party banners.

"The National Accord, aware of its unavoidable historical responsibility, is supporting MOPOCO, convinced that, by doing so, it is contributing to a better future for our country. It has been decided that, since there are no legal grounds for Domingo Laino and Luis Alfonso Resck to have been banished from the country, we demand that the government let these brave and active citizens return to our country.

"The National Accord feels that it speaks for the people who are marching ahead on the road toward democracy, and it is aware that all political changes must be accompanied by the necessary cultural, social, and economic reforms that the country requires.

"On the threshold of a new era, we share the view that the state of siege -- the dictatorship's legal backbone -- must be eliminated so that all Paraguayans can soon enjoy freedom. We invite all Paraguayan citizens who are in exile to return to Paraguay and to join the struggle for the democratization of our society by assuming their rights and duties. Asuncion, 11 January 1984"

LIBERAL PARTY REPUDIATES POLICE TORTURE

PY162345 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 15 Jan 84 p 6

[Excerpt] The Executive Board of the Liberal Party [PL], which is headed by Doctor Joaquin A. Burgos, yesterday issued a communique "in view of the increase of blood-curdling public reports proving that torture is commonly practiced by the Paraguayan police." The communique states that "the PL's Executive Board cannot avoid repudiating such a criminal practice, and demanding that the maximum punishment established in the penal code be applied to their moral and material authors, accomplices and accessories. It adds that in the specific case of the humble citizen Angel Mario Paez, his murder was aggravated by premeditation, ruthlessness, and brutal cruelty."

The communique adds that Paez' murder is similar to thousands of others committed in the various police precincts since the 1947 revolution. But what is really alarming is that torture is an institutional practice and that cases of torture are investigated and their authors are prosecuted, although we do not know of any one that has been in fact sentenced for it, only when they cause the death of the victim, as in the cases of Farias, Carlos Bogarin, and Angel Mario Paez.

BRIEFS

1983 TRADE DEFICIT -- According to the Central Bank, during the period January-November 1983 Paraguay imported goods worth $420,602,300 compared to $509,474,300 during the same period in 1982, and it exported goods worth $243,635,000 compared to $323,555,000 in 1982. Consequently the 1983 trade balance showed a deficit of $176,967,300. [Summary] [Asuncion HOY in Spanish 12 Jan 84 p 10 PY]

ECONOMY MINISTER DELIVERS ADDRESS TO NATION

PY142321 Paris AFP in Spanish 1832 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] Lima, 13 Jan (AFP) -- Last night in a radio and television address, Economy and Finance Minister Carlos Rodriguez Pastor said that after a particularly difficult economic year, Peru is achieving a gradual economic development.

Rodriguez Pastor noted that in view of controlled government spending, aid to the agricultural sector, the establishment of an uncontrolled rate of exchange, and the renegotiation of the foreign debt, Peru will, by the end of 1984 experience a 4.5-percent increase in its GDP and a moderate inflation rate. The purchasing power of Peruvian workers will also be good.

In 1983 inflation reached the unparalleled amount of 125.1 percent and the GDP decreased a record 12 percent. Additionally, there was a great drop in the purchasing power of salaries, since the Peruvian currency was devalued 129 percent, and unemployment and underemployment increased to 62.8 percnet.

The finance minister said: This certainly has been a merciless year for our fatherland. "It has been cruel because of the scourge of the droughts," brutal because of the food victims, sinister for those who were the victims of terrorism, hard for all cities, and fateful for all Peruvians.

Noting that this tragedy moved all Latin America, Rodriguez Pastor added that despite all of this, there were achievements such as the curbing of inflation, the start of reconstruction in the affected areas, the refinancing of the foreign debt, and the holding of municipal elections.

Regarding 1984, Rodriguez Pastor said that Peru will face the challenge of achieving a balance between economic growth and inflation. He said that to achieve this, he has proposed an economic plan, which has been approved but the IMF, for the next 18 months, the number of months that the regime of President Fernando Belaunde, will remain in office.

The economy minister noted that the cornerstone of this 18-month program is a sharp decrease in the government deficit -- which must be decreased to 4 percent of the GDP, as opposed to the 10 percent in 1983 -- but without overlooking aid to developing corporations, basic construction projects, and the indispensable health and education

The economy minister also noted that the government will avoid price controls, since they will be determined by supply and demand. He said, however, that price controls will continue on some products, like fuels, electricity and water utility rates, exchange rates, the different kinds of interest rates, and salaries.

Adding that the Peruvian sol will continue to experience a daily mini-devaluation in relation to the dollar, Rodriguez Pastor noted that there will not be monthly announcements, as there have been since September of last year. However, rumors in Lima state that the IMF wants the government to implement a harsh devaluation of 20 percent by January.

The economy minister also said that the agricultural sector will become the main promoter of development following the amendment of the agrarian reform system of the past military regime and that obstacles in the labor legislation will be eliminated. He was probably referring to labor stability measures which impede thousands of young people from entering the job market. Rodriguez Pastor also said that the IMF has agreed to support the Peruvian Government's 18 month economic program, which will enable the country to achieve important financial agreements with friendly countries (the Paris Club and Socialist countries), and the international private banking sector.

He added that foreign governments will grant facilities to help Peru overcome its problems concerning the foreign debt, which totals over $500 million, and that in the negotiations scheduled for the end of January in New York, the international banking sector will agree to postpone the collection of $400 million and to grant additional credits.

He said: If we are successful in these negotiations, 1984 will be the year in which we shall finally be able to overcome the obligations that are burdening our country and in which we shall finally be able to foresee decreasing payments in the foreign debt. He noted that as the year passes, we will see that the worst is over. Not only are we making important achievements in putting our finances in order but there are several indications that lead us to believe that there will be an increase in production and a curbing of inflation. Rodriguez Pastor noted that everything points to the fact that this will be a good year for the agricultural and fisheries sectors, that there will be a moderate increase in oil production, that the price of metals will increase in the second half of the year, and that nontraditional exports will increase. All of this will result in a considerable recovery of the industrial, commercial, and construction sectors.

POLICE KILL 17 'SUBVERSIVES,' ARREST TWO WOMEN

PY161832 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] A police patrol killed at least 17 Shining Path subversives and captured two women, reportedly German, during an armed confrontation in Huencavelica Department. The confrontation reportedly took place near the Cobriza copper mine, the underground mine which was attacked by a Shining Path commando 2 weeks ago. The commando killed a miner and wounded four others. The subversives were forced to flee by Civil Guard troops, who chased them for several days.

SHINING PATH KILLS PEASANTS IN APURIMAC

PY171830 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1642 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] Lima, 17 Jan (EFE) -- Members of the Peruvian Maoist guerrilla group Shining Path have killed six peasants in the southern Department of Apurimac and the manager of an agrarian cooperative in Cajamarca, located north of Lima. The newspaper El COMERCIO of Lima today reported that the guerrillas arrived last night in the town of Ongoy and killed six peasants after accusing them of cooperating with the police. In Cajamarca, a column of 30 guerrillas, armed with submachine guns, attacked the Jose Santos Chocano Agrarian Cooperative, killing the manager and then setting the machinery and installations on fire. The guerrillas then fled.

REPORTAGE ON UNIONS' 18 JAN GENERAL STRIKE

Report Shows 'No Activity'

PY181245 Montevideo Radio El Espectador in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] There is practically no activity this morning in Montevideo. Most of the workers of the private sector did not show up at their jobs. The municipality has just informed El Espectador that for the time being there is hardly any activity, but the workers are slowly coming in to work. Garbage collection will be carried out with the personnel that can get to work.

[Madrid EFE in Spanish at 0855 GMT on 18 January reports: "Uruguay woke up today paralyzed by the first general strike that the military regime has had to face. Approximately 90 percent of the country's workers are on strike. Sports activities have been suspended, and there will be no soccer or basketball games. The cinemas will be open because the employees of this sector have not adhered to the strike. Long distance bus services have also been interrupted, but the firms that cover the lines to Argentina and Brazil will make their normal runs.

"Newspapers will not be published today, but it has been stressed that Argentine publications will be distributed in the tourist areas of the east so that travelers can receive information on their country. The general strike is affecting the country as a whole, although measures have been taken to keep it from affecting the tourist area in the east, where thousands of Argentines are vacationing during one of the best seasons of the past few years."]

Government Officials Hold Meeting

PY182100 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The National Security Council [COSENA] is holding a special meeting to analyze the first 12 hours of the general strike called by the Interunion Workers Plenum [PIT]. The meeting is being held at the seat of government in Independencia Square, where the president of the republic has summoned the Armed Forces commanders in chief, Lieutenant General Boscan Hontou, Vice Admiral Rodolfo Invidio, and Lieutenant General Manuel Buadas. Also attending Interior Minister Hugo Linares Brum, Defense Minister Justo Alonso, Foreign Minister Carlos Maeso, Economy and Finance Minister Alejandro Vegh Villegas, and Labor and Social Security Minister Nestor Bolentini, along with Joint Chief of Staff Sergio Laborde, and Army Information Service Director German de La Fuente.

A reliable source has reported that the meeting will continue until the situations of all sectors involved in the strike are analyzed. It seems that one of the most important sectors, apart from the labor sector, is the economic one. Engineer Vegh Villegas was reportedly summoned first by the president of the republic to Government House. In the president's office on the second floor, they allegedly evaluated the country's situation in the light of the latest events. Vegh later returned to Government House at 1145 when the COSENA meeting began.

The labor minister this morning said that the strike will yield no results. However, Doctor Bolentini said that the people's decision must be respected, adding that although he thought that the measure was erroneous he respected it because the Uruguayan people are living and coexisting under a democracy.

Asked whether the strike could have any effect on the country's reinstitutionalization, Bolentini commented that it would not because politicians had said that this kind of difficulty would not become a regular practice.

Security measures have been tightened in the past few hours. Police and military trucks were seen patrolling various neighborhoods of Montevideo. No official organization has released any communique reporting incidents or detentions.

Government Bans PIT

PY182340 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 2256 GMT 18 Jan 84

[From the press room of Government House]

[Text] The president of the republic has just declared illegal the de facto organization called the Interunion Workers Plenum (PIT) and has decreed its dissolution.

The president has banned all oral and written propaganda on activities, strikes, stoppages and paralysis of public services which could directly or indirectly contribute to the perpetuation or aggravation of the situation which prompted this decree.

The decree also prohibits the dissemination of news and announcements on and calls for strikes.

Any violations of this decree could prompt the seizure of the publication or the closure of the news media, depending on their nature.

Article 3 [as heard]: All meetings which, in the opinion of the authorities, could prompt the violations established in the previous article are hereby prohibited. All places where such meetings are held or scheduled to be held will be closed.

Article 4: Whenever necessary, the authorities will enter into such places to restore labor normality.

Article 5. Article 168, section 17, paragraph 2, of the Constitution and, when applicable, Article 5 of Law No 9,604 of 13 October 1936 will be applied.

Article 6. The Ministries of the Interior and of National Defense are authorized to make confiscations, to enter into contracts, and to incur whatever expense might become necessary for as long as the situation referred to in this decree persists. These expenses will be charged to general expenditures.

Article 7. The Ministries of National Defense and of the Interior will be charged with enforcing this decree.

Article 8. Proforma

Signed: Lieutenant General Gregorio Alvarez, president of the republic; Colonel Nestor Bolentini, General Hugo Linares Brum, and Justo M. Alonso

Strike Enjoys Broad Support

PY190318 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2256 GMT 18 Jan 84

[By Eduardo Coccaro]

[Text] Montevideo, 18 Jan (EFE) -- The general strike in Uruguay was virtually total today due to the massive support of the workers and to the participation of a large proportion of small and medium businesses and industries. The stoppage, in addition to demanding the fulfillment of the workers' claims, is a clear demonstration against the military regime that has been in power for over 10 years, and it covered the entire country.

Only the public servants did not observe the day of protest because they lack a union and had received government threats of economic reprisals. Nevertheless, activities in public offices were very limited due to the lack of patrons and, in many cases, due to the absence of employees who were unable to get to work due to the complete stoppage of urban, suburban, and long-distance public transportation and taxis.

The government has requested those public servants that are unable to report to their offices to appear at their local police stations where they are to indicate their desire to go to work and justify their inability to get to their offices. Today's most prominent feature was the institution of strong military and police patrols. But no incidents developed because the unions asked their members to refrain from demonstrating publicly in order to avoid repressive actions. The 24-hour general strike is the first one to be called in Uruguay since the coup d'etat took place on 27 June 1973.

Reports from the interior of the country, which were gathered by EFE, today stated that the strike was nationwide. In Punta del Este, the fashionable summer resort where more than 150,000 Argentine, Brazilian, and Uruguayan tourists are spending their vacations, tourist businesses asked their workers to work normally, as the tourism season is in full swing and this season is by far the most successful in the past 10 years. Bus lines were also affected by the stoppages, which have shown a clear impact in the frequency of services to and from tourist resorts. Personnel from hotels, restaurants, and bars have held strikes per shifts. The newspapers were not printed today and the radio stations are broadcasting emergency programs. The radios are being operated by managerial staffs.

The strike has been fully observed in Salto and Paysandu, the two main cities of the interior, where only government-owned banks were open. Although some money exchanges were open, to allow foreign travelers to exchange their money, financial activities were nil today in Uruguay. The dollar exhange rate climbed a few points in view of speculation and the paralysis of the money exchange market.

Leaders of the leftist Interunion Workers Plenum [PIT], the main Uruguayan union organization, have publicly expressed their gratitude to store owners and businessmen for closing their shops to support the strike. PIT leader Richard Read today said: "We expected the workers' massive support, but we are also very satisfied with the support of the businessmen."

The government has not yet publicly reacted, but Labor Minister Nestor Bolentini acknowledged the success of the strike and emphasized "the damage this coercive measure has caused to the country."

FOREIGN MINISTER-DESIGNATE ON KISSINGER REPORT

PA182052 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Interview given by Foreign Minister-designate Isidro Morales Paul to unidentified reporters at the Miraflores Palace in Caracas on 17 January -- recorded, broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Morales] ...Henry Kissinger personifies the U.S. view of the Central America problem; consequently, he reflects the vital interests of the United States. A similar situation is seen in the Contadora Group, which is a multilateral analytical body searching for peace in Central America.

[Question] How would you describe the report? Is it sincere?

[Morales] I would say that the report is a sincere attempt to put the traditionally contemptuous U.S. attitude toward Central America in black and white. [passage indistict] It also implies that U.S. security interests are endangered by Central American problems. In addition the report does not discard the possibility of a military occupation.

[Question] Isn't this distressing?

[Morales] Obviously it is distressing, but the very existence of social problems in Central America is also distressing, as is the need to find a democratic solution for the problems in El Salvador and Nicaragua.

[Question] Do you mean to say, Doctor, that the Contadora Group's efforts have not been properly interpreted, or that they have been impeded by the United States?

[Morales] (?In the first place) the United States is not a member of the Contadora Group.

[Question] Of course, but the Contadora Group foreign minister initiated suggestions for the solution of the Central American crisis. Did the United States block this effort?

[Morales] The Kissinger report does not give the Contadora Group enough credit. Senator Kennedy himself has said this.

SIX PRESIDENTS EXPECTED AT LUSINCHI INAUGURATION

PA132258 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 6 Jan 84 p D-4

[From the "Miraflores in View" column, by J. Lossada Rondon]

[Text] No more than six heads of state will come to Caracas for Jaime Lusinchi's presidential inauguration, which will reportedly be as austere as possible. So far, the following heads of states are expected to attend:

Luis Alberto MOnge, from Costa Rica; Ricardo de la Espriella, from Panama; Raul Alfonsin, from Argentina; Salvador Jorge Blanco, from the Dominican Republic, and Hernan Siles Zuazo, from Bolivia. There is some doubt about Siles Zuazo's attendance.

It is believed that Ecuadoran President Osvaldo Hurtado Larrea will not travel to Caracas because the inauguration coincides with the closing of the Ecuadoran electoral campaign. Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry will not come because he does not like to leave the country often, and has traveled at least four times in the last year.

SPANISH LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION MAKING VISIT

Sepulveda on Contadora Cooperation

FL171612 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0230 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor today recognized the Spanish Government's support for the Contadora Group's efforts for peace in Central America.

During a visit by Spanish legislators to the Mexican Foreign Ministry, Sepulveda has been splendid and that Spain has exercised its diplomatic influence to help the Contadora governments in their efforts in Central America. He said that during Spanish President Felipe Gonzalez' visit to Mexico in 1983, there was a particularly good opportunity to review Spanish-Mexican affairs in order to plan future potential political, economic, and cultural cooperation between the two nations. He added that this type of exchange not only enhances the links between Spain and Mexico but also allows for an exchange of viewpoints on the international political perspective and on cooperation between the two nations' congresses and governments.

The Mexican Foreign Secretary emphasized that the splendid relations exist not only between the congresses of the two countries but also between President Miguel de la Madrid and President Felipe Gonzalez. In conclusion, he expressed his pleasure with the broad range of cooperation between the two countries.

Spanish Official on Trade

FL182340 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1815 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Mexico City, 18 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Jose Federico de Carbajal, president of Spain's Senate, has stated that Mexico has a $1.5-billion favorable balance-of-trade credit with Spain. De Carbajal, who is heading a delegation visiting Mexico, said Mexico buys $600 million worth of Spanish products, while Spain buys more than $2.1 billion worth of Mexican products, of which 90 percent are hydrocarbons.

The Spanish senator also indicated that next June a Mexican delegation will visit Madrid, where they will analyze common problems as well as widening Mexican-Spanish relations. De Carbajal, who traveled to Merida, Yucatan, before returning to Madrid, stated that democracy in his country was fully consoldiated within a framework composed of various political parties.

SPANISH PETROLEUM OFFICIAL MEETS PEMEX CHIEF

FL181602 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2320 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] Mexico City, 17 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Pemex, commenting on the visit to Mexico of Claudio Boada, president of Spain's National Hydrocarbons Institute, today reported that Mexico and Spain are seeking new opportunities for cooperation on petroleum matters.

Pemex Director Mario Ramon Beteta today received the Spanish official and the delegation accompanying him in his office. In the meeting, it was noted that Pemex is the primary supplier of crude oil to the Iberian country.

Claudio Boada expressed his approval of the multidimensional relationship between the Spanish refining sector and Pemex. Crude oil, petroleum, and petrochemical products make up an integral part of the relations between the two countries.

Pemex also announced that a technology exchange agreement was signed between the Spanish National Hydrocarbons Institute and the Mexican Petroleum Institute (IMP). IMP Director Jose Luis Garcia Luna was present for the signing. In 1983, Pemex sold 160,000 barrels of crude a day to Spain and it now plans to increase this amount by 20,000 barrels daily. The total invoice for 1983 was $500 million.

SWEDISH DELEGATION VISITS; PROJECTS TO INCREASE

FL181652 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0015 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 17 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Secretary of Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources Horacio Garcia Aguilar and the visiting Swedish Government cooperation delegation today agreed to increase joint economic and social development projects in Mexico. Swedish private companies have expressed particular interest in greater participation in the exploitation of forestry resources, agro-industrial and cattle activities, and the application of technology in urban and rural water use. The meeting was held in Garcia Aguilar's office, where the policy of international cooperation between the two nations was reaffirmed.

PARTIES ALLEGE FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION VIOLATIONS

PA181933 Mexico City EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 16 Jan 84 p 11

[Excerpts] The PRT [Revolutionary Workers Party] and the PSUM [Unified Socialist Party of Mexico] have charged that the Radiobroadcasting Commission is violating the freedom of expression and LOPPE [Federal Law on Political Organization and Electoral Processes] by spoiling their programs, and have stressed that the opposition parties need to organize a common front to defend those rights.

Pedro Penaloza and Rodolfo Chavez of the PRT reported that their party's recent radio and television programs have not been transmitted completely and suffered from noisy interference, which prevented the public from hearing the party's message.

We demand that the contents of our programs be shown full respect, Pedro Penaloza noted, explaining that it is not an attack on the party, per se, but a response to the constant criticism that the party has voiced of the regime's economic policy.

We cannot allow ourselves to the punished by the government for our critical views on national activities, he remarked.

He accused the government of "giving the green light" to the Radiobroadcasting Commission, in accordance with its policy of restrictions on parties, unions, and neighborhoods.

The PSUM, meanwhile, has sent a telegram to Daniel Montero Zendejas, director of the Radiobroadcasting Commission, protesting the censorship of the party's "Program 59."

The PSUM concluded its telegram by demanding an explanation from the Radiobroadcasting Commission of that censorship, seen as an "action against the freedom of expression, the LOPPE provisions and, ultimately, against the process of political change."

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS BURN U.S. ARMY VEHICLE

PA190239 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0222 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Panama City, 18 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- University students tonight burned a U.S. Army station wagon that had entered the university campus.

The vehicle, carrying a group of students belonging to a folkloric dance group from somewhere in the canal area, was burned before dozens of curious onlookers and students. No one was reported injured.

Panama University Rector Ceferino Sanchez tried unsuccessfully to mediate. The students, however, mostly members of the Anti-Interventionist Juvenile Movement of Panama (MOJAP), burned the vehicle on the transisthmian highway.

Leaders of MOJAP, which is made up by groups of various leftist tendencies, ascribed the act of violence to the violation of university autonomy by the entry onto the campus of a U.S. Army vehicle used to transport U.S. soldiers, and to the "attacks by the United States on Central American countries."

Protests against U.S. policy in Central America have increased recently, especially at the University of Panama, since 27-year-old Panamanian Rolando Perez Palomino burned himself to death in front of the U.S. Embassy. Perez Palomino immolated himself in the style of a Buddhist monk. He left a letter saying that he was protesting U.S. violations of the Panama Canal Treaties and its "intervention" in the area.

PRESIDENT TURNS DOWN ELECTORAL CODE REFORMS

PA181830 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 18 Jan 84 pp 1, C-4

[Letter sent by Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella to National Legislation Council President Lorenzo Sotero Alfonso Govea, dated Panama City, 17 January]

[Text] Honorable Mr President:

In accordance with the constitutional priciple that establishes that public power is exercised by the state through the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, which act in a limited and separate manner but in harmonious cooperation, I respectfully return without signing the bill "by which Article 181 is modified and Articles 25, 30, 55, 68, 81, 86, 87, and 186 of Law 11 of 10 August 1983, which establishes the Electoral Code, are reformed. [quotation mark as published]

On behalf of the executive branch, we have, via various media and on different occasions, expressed our determination to ensure that the coming elections are held on the announed dates and within a climate of peace, legal order, and respect, so as to effectively guarantee their honesty and results. We hold to this determination. We see that several provisions of the bill that we are returning extend deadlines established by the Electoral Law, making it uncertain that the elections will be held on the established dates.

Although it is true that the National Legislation Council has the constitutional power to "issue, implement, reform, or abolish national codes," in this particular case we must recognize the special nature of the subject, which is regulated by Law 11 of 10 August 1983, and the rapidly approaching dates of the elections, so as to leave intact, without any reform, the legal principles that regulate political activity and that must be in force for the coming elections, permitting us to benefit from wise experience.

We must also realize that Law 11, which has been in effect since 10 August 1983, was approved by the esteemed National Legislation Council on the basis of a draft presented by the Electoral Tribunal after general consultation with the political parties. Therefore, it is logical to suppose that any possible amendment would undergo the same process. Despite this, and despite the well-founded reasons that certainly inspired the proposed reforms, the Electoral Tribunal could not, for reasons of time, fulfill the established electoral calendar in order to hold the elections on the estabished dates.

Esteemed legislators: As the president of the Republic, I must state to the legislative branch that from the moment that we received the bill, we studied and thought about it with the deepest patriotic spirit, devoid of political interests and pressures of any kind, inspired solely by our commitment to the fatherland to continue, with a firm and certain step, a real process of democratization that will lead us to elections in May and June 1984, a process that all Panamanians must continue ever after these elections are held.

Ricardo de la Espriella T., President of the Republic

DEFENSE FORCES TO INITIATE 'OPERATION COPE'

PA181825 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] A contingent of the Defense Forces of the Republic of Panama that is scheduled to participate in "Operation Cope," which will take place in the Cocle Mountain region, left central headquarters this afternoon. The operation will be directed by General Manuel Antonio Noriega and his staff members.

Units from the 1st, 2d, 4th, and 6th Infantry Brigades and from the Year 2000 1st Battalion will participate in this tactical operation, joining commanders of our military institution's various garrisons, branches, and services. The Year 2000 Battalion will be responsible for the seizure, defense, and retention of strategic locations which attacking and counterattacking an imaginary enemy. The battalion will receive timely support from the 6th Expeditionary Company.

The Commander Omar Camp will be the operations center for the units participating in Operation Cope. This camp will be located somewhere in the community of Cope. The operation will conclude with an important civic action program in the community of Cope on Thursday, 19 January, in which military medical personnel from Zones 1 and 6 will provide medical attention to the area's people.

The Defense Forces have asked the resident of El Potrero, El Cope, and nearby areas to follow the instructions appearing in duly placed posters in order to avoid accidents. Residents should not be alarmed because of the troop movements that may occur, since the operation results only from the interest that the high command and staff have in increasing the skill and knowledge of Defense Forces members and in strengthening institutional unity.

BELIZE

PRIME MINISTER PRICE ANNOUNCES NEW CABINET

FL180259 Belize City Domestic Service in English 0100 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Speech by Prime Minister George Price on 18 January announcing the members of his new cabinet -- recorded]

[Text] My fellow Belizians, the new year of 1984 ushers in for Belize hope on many fronts. We have weathered the storm of international economic pressures during the year 1983, and despite all the difficulties which our beloved country faced, we have avoided the extreme suffering which other developing countries have been forced to endure.

The pressures will continue to plague us in this year, but the prospect that we shall be able to do even better in 1984 begins to surface.

The lower interest rates recently announced should inject into the economy additional funds for private sector expansion and we shall work for even lower rates.

The recommendation of the Kissinger Bipartisan Commission on Central America promises substancial funds for the economic development of the region. Belize will profit from these funds. For this, I wish to thank Dr Kissinger, who personally promised to help Belize when we met earlier last year on my journey to New Delhi.

The establishment of diplomatic relations is the time to open new doors for meaningful cooperation. Now we are about to open new relations with Switzerland. With independence, the foundation of our nation in the world community grows from strength to strength. At the same time we have worked to improve these institutions within our society, which secure and preserve the peace, those institutions which insure the right of each citizen and those which maintain the fair distribution of wealth to all.

We shall in this year institute even more structures to deepen and enhance our firm democratic system of life and to preserve the rule of law and the fundamental freedom of all our people, based upon the principles of social justice.

To achieve these goals and to maintain the course of our government on an even keel, I have in the last 2 days faced the need to adjust the thrust of my government. This has become necessary, principally because I have had, regretfully, to accept the resignation of the deputy prime minister, Mr Rogers. His long and faithful service has been cut short through illness. He has, however, agreed to carry on, health allowing, as leader of government business in the Senate, and as my personal adviser.

This event brought about its own need for changes in portfolios of government and I took the opportunity to add new thrust on the economic side, on foreign affairs, and on public utilities.

This new impetus will continue to be founded on our policy of non-alliance, recognizing our special ties with the United States of America as the leader of this hemisphere.

I am pleased to inform you that the new cabinet met in Belmopan today. Comprised as follows:

I will undertake responsibility for finance, defense, and social security. I proceed in alphabetical order.

The minister, Eligio Briceno, will be assigned responsibility for energy and communications.

The minister, Vernon Courtney, responsibility for home and foreign affairs, holding the office of attorney-general.

The minister, Fredrick Hunter, responsibility for work, with the Honorable Samuel Waight as deputy minister.

The minister, Florencio Marin, responsibility for natural resources.

The minister, David McCoy, responsibility for labor, social services, and community development.

The minister, Said Musa, responsibility for education and economic development.

The minister, Guadelupe Pech, responsibility for trade and industry.

The minister, Assad Shoman, responsibility for health, housing, and cooperatives with the Honorable Jane Usher as deputy minister.

The minister, Louis Sylvester, responsibility for local government, establishment, and broadcasting.

In all this work, we follow the good advice of Ephesians, endeavoring to keep the unity of spirit in the bond of peace. For as we work together, to build and strengthen Belize, we recall an entire phrase, the words of the prophet Isaiah: We shall build houses and inhabit them, and we shall have vineyards and keep the fruit of them. We shall not build and another inhabit. We shall not plant and another eat.

In the words of our manifester, let us work to bring about the new and progressive revolution for a free and a just society, where social justice will prevail and where the opportunity offered by our independence status will be fully utilized for the benefit of all Belizeans.

As leader of the nation, I call on all Belizeans to unite and work in peace and harmony for the development of Belize and its deserving people.

VERNON SEES 'COMMUNIST' SHIFT IN PRICE GOVERNMENT

PA180404 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 15 Jan 84 p 5

[Text] The Belizean Government headed by Prime Minister George C. Price this weekend made a clear shift toward the left with the inclusion of several Belizean Communist Party leaders in the cabinet. As in the United Kingdom, the Communist Party operates legally in Belize.

Price's action prompted the immediate resignation of several anticommunist cabinet members, according to information given by telephone to LA PRENSA yesterday by Alexander (Alex) Vernon, leader of the opposition Progressive Party.

Vernon, one of Price's political opponents, said that Defense Minister Carl Rogers presented his resignation and that Price himself has taken over the portfolio.

Louis Sylvestre, minister of local government and social security, Frederick Hunter, minister of works, and Eligio Briceno, minister of energy and mines, [all titles as published] have also presented their resignations.

Meanwhile, the Belizeans are expecting more cabinet resignations in the next few hours, Vernon reported. He added that he believes Prime Minister Price is facing one of the worst crises of the past few years.

Vernon said that it is unlikely that Price will be able to retain power because he decided to appoint the Communist Party members to the cabinet without first consultating his cabinet. They are Assad Shoman, minister of health, and Said Musa, minister of education and sports. [titles as published]

Mr Vernon believes that the discontent peaked when it was learned that Price had ultimately appointed Harry Courtenay as minister of foreign affairs and attorney general. Price's official statements were broadcast over local radio stations, which said his decisions were final.

Meanwhile, Vernon stressed that his opposition party has firmly decided to stop Price's moves to promote communist infiltration. At the same time, the remaining cabinet members have said that general elections should be held before the end of the year.

COSTA RICA

MONGE CONFIRMS RESIGNATIONS OF CABINET MINISTERS

PA181643 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1425 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] San Jose, 18 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- President Luis Alberto Monge today announced that three of his cabinet members have resigned their posts, in order to occupy other political, diplomatic, and international banking positions.

Planning Minister Claudio Antonio Volio has been confirmed as the new Costa Rican ambassador to Washington, replacing Fernando Soto Harrison, whose post has been vacant since 1 January.

Rodolfo Silva, the current minister counselor on foreign debt, will be the new manager for the IDB, headquartered in Washington.

Public Works Minister Rolando Araya Monge has also resigned his post, in order to run for secretary general of the National Liberation Party, which is the Social Democratic government party.

President Monge has not yet decided who will replace the outgoing cabinet members, but according to political observers in San Jose, it is possible that he will take advantage of the opportunity to anrounce a "general reshuffle."

GUTIERREZ PROTESTS NICARAGUAN BORDER INCURSIONS

PA182045 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] The Costa Rican Foreign Ministry today presented a protest note to the Nicaraguan Sandinist Government for the violation of its sovereignty and its territory. According to the protest note, members of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] fired on Costa Rican territory on 27 December, and on 5 January incursions were made into the localities of (La Victoria), Buena Vista, and (Zapote de Upala). The protest note sent by Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez states that the EPS members intimidated Costa Rican residents in the area during those incursions.

In addition to asking that the Sandinist government order a detailed investigation of these incidents, the Costa Rican Government has demanded that those responsible be punished and that appropriate explanations be given.

EL SALVADOR

FMLN ATTACK ON BRIDGE, RETALIATION REPORTED

PA181250 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1500 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] In Usulutan and San Vicente Departments, FMLN extremists have attacked the guard posts and installations at the Railroad Bridge that is very close to the now-destroyed Oro Bridge, which divides Usulutan and San Vicente Departments along the Coastal Highway, El Salvador's second most important thoroughfare. The attack, which lasted about 4 hours, is the second consecutive attack on the bridge, the first having taken place last night.

Reports from ranking military sources in Zacatecoluca note that the rebels began harassing National Guard lookout points and security checkpoints near Santa Cruz Porria and on a long stretch leading toward the Railroad Bridge, in San Marcos and San Nicolas Lempa, where military installations and the bridge are located.

Military reports state that the guerrillas began using heavy weapons after the attack. Near midnight last night, Salvadoran Air Force units bombed the rebels' presumed positions, forcing them to call off the attack and to withdraw from the installations that they were trying to destroy, the sources said.

Those same sources would not say whether the Armed Forces suffered any casualties during the 4-hour attack. Rebel casualties also are unknown. Residents of the area have said that the situation there is becoming increasingly difficult because of constant rebel harassment along the highways and on the bridge security checkpoints.

UPI CORRESPONDENT SAID MISSING IN CHALATENANGO

PA190341 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0250 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] San Salvador, 18 Jan (DPA) -- Raul Beltran Bonilla, a UPI correspondent in El Salvador, has been declared missing after failing to return from a trip to Chalatenango Department on Tuesday morning.

Beltran and two members of the Communications Center [Centro de Comunicadores -- CDC] left for the area of "Los Perazas" canton, Santa Rita, Chalatenango Department, approximately 56 km north of San Salvador.

Civilian sources said it had been learned that the bodies of 107 guerrillas who died in combat had been found in that area on Sunday.

At the UPI offices, located at the Camino Real Hotel in San Salvador, there is much concern over the fate of their correspondent.

It has been learned that all foreign correspondents established in El Salvador will leave early Thursday morning to begin the search for Raul Beltran Bonilla and the two photographers from the Communications Center, which is directed by Guatemalan reporter Rosas Gaitan.

The ABC, NBC, CBS, THE NEW YORK TIMES, AP, and other international agency camera crews will also begin a search for the Salvadoran correspondent.

Beltran also works for San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL, and is a reporter for the VOA, Swedish national radio, and U.S. FOCUS [Enfoque de los Estados Unidos].

U.S. 'SECRET DOCUMENT' ON MILITARY AID ASSAILED

PA190319 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The U.S. Southern Command has issued a new secret document that is being widely published. The document presents a clear plan to make the Salvadoran dictatorship's puppet Army the most powerful army in Central America, while the U.S. Government's objective is to win the war against the Salvadoran people by 1985.

The U.S. military document cites plans for a victory over the FMLN, provided the puppet regime receives more military aid to oppose the people's army.

Henry Kissinger's famous report has been prepared precisely to back the U.S. Government's military plans against El Salvador and Central America. The Kissinger report is aimed at convincing the U.S. Congress to support the military plans that Reagan and his warmongers are making to try and crush the Salvadoran people's rebellion.

The secret document recently issued by the Pentagon states that the Salvadoran puppet regime can win the war against the people, provided it receives $1.4 billion in aid. The Pentagon is planning to triple military aid to the Salvadoran dictatorship this year. With this enormous amount of money, the Reagan administration plans to build a new army out of the worn out and demoralized puppet Army.

The U.S. military plans to make the Salvadoran puppet Army the most powerful in Central America. The Gringo plan for El Salvador is to organize 52 counterinsurgency units and 7 rapid deployment battalions, which will increase Salvadoran combat personnel by approximately 50,000 men.

With such plans, plus the $1.4 billion in aid, the Gringos expect to win the war against our people by 1985.

But the big plans of the U.S. Army, drafted by who knows how many computers and robots in uniform, are getting stuck and bogged down when put into practice.

Another aspect the secret U.S. Army document has not taken into consideration is the Salvadoran Army's growing demoralization, especially among its troops.

While U.S. computers are programming the need to increase the dictatorship's Army by some 50,000 men, this will mean an increase in the repressive and compulsory drafting of thousands of young workers and peasants.

This whim of the U.S. military is the sorrow of thousands of poor Salvadoran homes, whose young men are beaten, tied, trained, and put in uniform to fight and carry out Reagan's plans.

REAGAN HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT TO CONGRESS SCORED

PA180420 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] Reagan wants to hide his serpent tail and continue to interfere in our country in support of the dictatorship. Yesterday he tried to surprise the world and his own people by presenting a report at the U.S. Congress. This is another stack of paper on the Salvadoran war. Ronald Reagan's heavy brick is comprised of 57 pages, intended to misinform and to justify an increase in the U.S. Government's military aid to the dictatorship.

Reagan has dared to assert in his report that the human rights situation has improved in our country, contradicting the figures revealed by five U.S. organizations defending human rights and the Salvadoran Catholic Church itself. These figures ascertain that horrible crimes are still being perpetrated against the people. And the persons responsible for this slaughter are precisely Reagan's godchildren in El Salvador.

Reagan's report, better still, Reagan's new report is a monument to hypocrisy and criminality. This report only serves to prove the U.S. Government's complicity with the criminals of the death squads and, of course, with the bombings and massacres perpetrated by the Army, which is being trained by the Gringo advisers. The death squad criminals are now being (?sent) abroad, with Reagan's approval, as payment for their services in massacring thousands of Salvadorans.

Nothing, absolutely nothing, with the faintest scent of progress can be perceived in the policy being conducted by the Magana dictatorship. Mr Reagan, the honorable liar, still asserts that there is progress where there is not the slightest trace of a so-called agrarian reform. We join our people's clamor, and we demand trial and punishment for the criminal thugs of the death squads, who are being sent abroad by Magana's regime with all expenses paid.

We join our people in repudiating Mr Reagan's hypocrisy, his astounding hypocrisy. He has the gall to present and advocate a report riddled with lies in order to prevent the defeat of a system of exploitation and injustice in El Salvador. Reagan cannot hide his serpent tail. He will be tried by history for his complicity in the genocide against the Central American peoples.

All the people to oppose the imperialist intervention until victory!

FPL COMMANDER GUERRA ON 'DEMORALIZED' ARMY

PA190425 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Interview with Commander Salvador Guerra, member of the People's Liberation Forces, FPL, General Command, by an unidentified reporter on 17 January in a "guerrilla camp" -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] Commander Guerra, we greet you with a brotherly and revolutionary salute. The people would like to know, how are the officers and troops of the puppet Army reacting to our victorious operations in Chalatenango Department?

[Guerra] I want to thank Radio Farabundo Marti for this opportunity to talk to the heroic Salvadoran people. The smashing victories of the FMLN over the puppet Army are having deep repercussions on the enemy's demoralized troops. The troops are demoralized because they are being defeated by the People's Liberation Forces. On the other hand, the fascist high command still believes in a military solution, despite the fact that we have defeated the puppet Army's new tactics.

Other reasons they have to be demoralized are the failure of the CONARA [National Commission for the Reconstruction of Affected Areas] Plan, and the defeat of their elite battalions, including the Cazadores Battalions that have been trained in Puerto Castilla, Honduras. The truth is that the fascist high command is sending soldiers and officers to get killed as cannon fodder to try and obtain a military solution.

[Reporter] Commander, can you tell us about conflicts within the officer ranks of the puppet Army?

[Guerra] There is a conflict going on among the members of the fascist high command, which is comprised of the defense minister, the deputy defense minister, the General Staff, some brigade chiefs and most of the officers in charge of garrisons. There is a growing concern among the young officers -- captains, lieutenants, second lieutenants, and cadres who are just arriving at the military school -- over what will become of the Armed Forces and how the war will end. They know the consequences of war, because they are facing it and suffering it in person. On the other hand, the fascist high command is entirely committed to the oligarchy and to imperialism and does not mind sending officers and soldiers to be cannon fodder in order to obtain a military solution. However, I would say there is a growing awareness among young officers in favor of a political solution.

Our people's army has been inflicting crushing defeats on the puppet Army. We do not believe the solution is to keep on with the bloodshed. I know that many officers share this view, but they prefer not to say anything to avoid reprisals.

However, the officers should show more character and oppose the fascist high command and refuse to carry out orders to massacre the people or to continue a futile war, but instead should try to find a political and worthy solution that does not hurt our sovereignty and independence.

ARMY RETREAT IN CHALATENANGO PROVES 'LOW MORALE'

PA181724 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Relay from station's "Combat Broadcasting Unit" in eastern Chalatenango Department, El Salvador]

[Text] We wish to report to the people that the Sierpe Battalion has continued to pull its troops out of Chalatenango. Two companies belonging to the Sierpe Battalion abandoned their positions around the strategic Cerron Grande Dam, south of the town of Potonico, here in Chalatenango Department.

These abandoned positions include those at El Picacho Hill, (Andarillo) Hill, (El Gontuman) Hill, and Monte Redondo canton, all of which are located in the jurisdiction of Potonico. Despite the strategic importance of the Cerron Grande Dam, the enemy is removing the security ring around this important dam, in order to protect and preserve its troops.

These two Army companies ran off to seek refuge in Chalatenango garrisons following our recent attack, which completely wiped out El Paraiso's 4th Brigade. Thus, once again the low morale of the puppet Army is revealed in the adoption of defensive tactics by the [words indistinct] in Chalatenango Department.

We also wish to report to our people that today, 17 January, in the afternoon, the dictatorship's planes again [words indistinct] Chalatenango Department.

This time, pirate Juan Rafael Bustillo's planes bombed (Palmeron) Hill, located north of Dulce Nombre de Maria. As with many other attacks on this department, this was a blind and fruitless attempt.

GUATEMALA

GOVERNMENT EXTENDS AMNESTY BENEFITS 60 DAYS

PA181232 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0645 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Guatemala City, 18 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- Guatemala has extended the benefits of an amnesty law for left-wing guerrillas last night in response to a recent outbreak of extremist violence.

An official announcement declared that the amnesty now in effect will be valid for 60 more days, in an effort to "secure peace and harmony for all Guatemalans."

The government did not specify how many people are receiving the benefits of the amnesty, which was decreed in August shortly after General Oscar Mejia Victores overthrew General Efrain Rios Montt in a military coup.

Government officials announced yesterday that documents that were seized last week indicate that the guerrillas plan to increase the pace of their "terrorist" activities in the capital.

Left-wing guerrillas staged simultaneous attacks on Monday on five police stations in the capital, using grenades and automatic fire and wounding nine policemen.

A guerrilla organization announced that this attack was intended to protest a government raid staged on Monday which involved the use of tanks, artillery, and helicopters in an effort to evict three revels from a clandestine hideout.

In recent weeks, both right-wing and left-wing groups have increased their activities in this capital, which enjoyed a period of relative calm in 1983.

KISSINGER CENTRAL AMERICA REPORT BERATED

PA181950 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Station commentary: "Cleaning up the Backyard"]

[Excerpts] As expected, the famous Kissinger report has provoked many diverse and conflicting reactions.

Only very few indeed have perceived the essentials of the situation. The recommendations that were prepared by the commission presided over by the Machiavellian German Jew -- the sinister alter ego of the equally notorious Mr Richard Nixon, who was expelled from the U.S. Presidency because of his political trickery -- reveal the simple fact that Uncle Sam, as the absolute master of his house, has prepared a plan to clean up his backyard.

Since this uncle sees Central America as his backyard, the legitimate interests and opinions of the true owners of the house -- we, the Central Americans -- don't mean a thing.

Sweep over here, put a carpet over there, spray some DDT to get rid of bothersome insects, and give some bananas to the monkey. Buy a pretty golden cage for the parrot, pat the dog so that he wags his tail. Give enough bread to the watchman, a few easy million so that he can enjoy the tropical land of future blond investors, and everybody is happy and gay, living in holy peace, with the backyard all fixed-up and nice looking. It is that easy, apparently.

HONDURAS

CLASH AT EL AMATILLO CUSTOMS POST REPORTED

PA182032 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1733 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 18 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- For 8 minutes Salvadoran soldiers fired on the El Amatillo Honduran customs post on the southern border, the Honduran local radio station "HRN" reported today.

No dead or wounded resulted from Tuesday's attack, which occurred without warning and for unknown reasons while hundreds of people were at the post, the radio station reported, citing travelers.

According to the same sources, the Honduran soldiers did not respond to the Salvadoran attack. which also affected the construction of the Honduran police border post.

Honduran authorities have not as yet confirmed the border incident.

Relations between the two countries have been strained in the past few days as a result of the territorial border dispute over Pacific Island of Meanguera in the Gulf of Fonseca, over which both Honduras and El Salvador claim sovereignty.

NICARAGUA

NUNEZ CALLS FOR RETURN TO L.A. PARLIAMENT

PA182224 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] The revolutionary government's decision to make every possible effort to preserve the Contadora Group's political nature and status as a negotiation path was reasserted today by Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez Tellez, president of the State Council, during the second special session of the co-legislative body.

If Contadora fails, the other path -- the military path -- which nobody wants, will be left, Commander Nunez asserted when answering the speech delivered by Marco Proano, president of the Political Commission of the Latin American Parliament, during the session. Proano heads the delegation of the Latin American Parliament that visited the council today.

Commander Nunez underscored the decision adopted by the Parliament's 11th Assembly in 1979 to expell the Somozist dictatorship's congress from its ranks.

The president of the State Council expressed gratitude for the efforts that have been carried out during the last 3 years by the Parliament, in which Nicaragua has participated as an observer. He called for Nicaragua's return to the Parliament as a member, adding that the time has come for Nicaragua to return to the Latin American Parliment in order to bolster peace efforts and play an active role in it, because Nicaragua is becoming consolidated as a nation and deserves the respect of all legislative bodies.

BELGIUM, SWEDEN AFFIRM SUPPORT FOR NICARAGUA

PA182044 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 13 Jan 84 p 12

[Excerpt] The governments of Belgium and Sweden have reiterated their support for the Contadora Group's peace efforts, and for the efforts made in this connection by Nicaragua, all of which are intended to achieve a political solution to Central America's problems.

My government "hopes that solutions will be found through dialogue, mutual understanding, and reciprocal respect for sovereignty," by all of the regional countries, Belgian ambassador in Nicaragua Pangaert d'Opdort said yesterday, as he presented his credentials to the revolutionary government.

He reiterated Belgium's intention to continue cooperating with our country in the process of national reconstruction, and he praised the work under way here in Nicaragua "to implement a pluralist democracy and to develop a mixed economy as well as respect for a policy of nonintervention."

For his part, Swedish Ambassador Sven Gote Ingemar Magnusson, who also presented his credentials on Thursday, stressed that Nicaragua "has the inalienable right to live in peace, without foreign and illegitimate pressures," so as "to continue along its constructive and active path."

According to the diplomat, "Nicaragua is making efforts to achieve peace in the area." He added that his government hopes "that the work currently under way within the framework of Contadora will soon yield favorable results."

Dr Rafael Cordova Rivas, who officially received the two diplomats' credentials, reiterated the Nicaraguan people's support for the principle of self-determination of the peoples, so that each nation may freely decide its own destiny.

JUNTA TO APPOINT DELEGATES TO PARTIES ASSEMBLY

PA172108 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Oscar Alvarez report from the State Council]

[Text] This morning during its first special session the State Council approved Article No 5, which deals with the State Council's decision on electoral law rules.

Article No 5 states that 31 January 1984 is the deadline for the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction to designate the principal and alternate who will form part of the National Assembly of Political Parties. On 15 February of this year, the president of the Supreme Court of Justice will administer the legal oath to the members of the national assembly of political parties, in line with the political parties law.

PARTIES LAW MAY END OPPOSITION ALLIANCE

PA182219 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Deputy Commander Rafael Solis, secretary of the State Council, said today during the second special session of the Council that the Ramiro Sacasa Coordinating Board may be dissolved in the next few months after the State Council approves the rules of the law on political parties, because according to this law only the political parties can form alliances.

Comments at the plenary session centered on the fact that the Ramiro Sacasa Coordinating Board is made up of three political parties, two labor federations, and a part of the private sector. The law on political parties provides that alliances may only be formed for the purpose of achieving political objectives through joint action. In that case, the allied parties must inform the National Council on Political Parties [Concejo Nacional de Partidos Politicos] about the platform and duration of the alliance, for subsequent publication in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Council Approves 10 Articles

PA182314 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] The State Council today approved 10 articles of the political parties law, including the articles dealing with propaganda and party alliances.

Article 10 of the set of regulations provides that propaganda will be carried out through loudspeakers, billboards, placards, and leaflets, which may be placed on movable or real estate property subject to approval by the owner or speaker.

The article states that this type of propaganda may not be used in public monuments and buildings, or in temples and other religious buildings. In addition, propaganda may be carried in newspapers and through radio and television stations, in line with economic possibilities, but respecting free [word indistinct].

The State Council also approved a subsection stating that the parties may not and must not (?deride), revile, or slander political organizations.

Article 11 of the political parties law was also approved. It provides that in order to form an alliance it is necessary to enter into an agreement stating the duration of the alliance and its platform, rights, and obligations, in accordance with the pertinent provisions of the law on political parties.

SOVIET TANKER DELIVERS CRUDE OIL SHIPMENT

PA130451 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2038 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] Managua, 12 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- Nicaraguan industry sources have reported that a Soviet tanker last week delivered a crude oil shipment to Nicaragua, despite the anti-Sandinists' threats that they would blow up any ship bringing supplies to the leftist regime.

Right-wing rebels of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, whose bases are in neighboring Honduras, claim they have mined the Nicaraguan oil port of Corinto.

FDN spokesman Edgar Chomorro last week told the news media that the FDN effectively carried out a test explosion with a mine at the port, but the Nicaraguan Government has rejected the FDN statement.

There was no information on the amount of oil delivered by the Soviet Union, or about whether the Soviets would become regular providers.

Previously, Mexico was the only source of crude for Venezuela [as received]. It supplied 7,500 barrels per day in tankers that were chartered by Nicaragua.

LA PRENSA DIRECTOR REPORTS NEWS MEDIA CENSORSHIP

PA161957 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 10 Jan 84 p 6-B

[Text] Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, director of Managua's LA PRENSA, yesterday told Radio Cadena Nacional that in Nicaragua the news media are still severely gagged, and that the Sandinist government controls all the radio stations and two television stations.

Chamorro said: "LA PRENSA remains subject to daily censorship. Every day they restrict our publication. However, there has been an improvement in the political aspect, that is, the political parties have been given greater facilities to express themselves through LA PRENSA, but not through other means of communication, which remain under the iron-clad control of the Sandinist Front. There is more flexibility in the censorship; however, on 15 March, it will be 2 years since what still could be considered as an iron-clad censorship was imposed on LA PRENSA.

"The daily LA PRENSA is practically the only independent medium in Nicaragua, because the Sandinist Front has absolute control over the other news media, including two newspapers and all the radio stations, as well as two television stations.

"Whenever LA PRENSA publishes something that bothers the government, it has to endure an organized anti-LA PRENSA campaign in all the news media. They are tremendous attacks, and if LA PRENSA wants to defend itself, it always has to do so under censorship restrictions; that is, the censors remove whatever they don't like of LA PRENSA's defense. This leaves us defenseless."

FDN REPUDIATES FSLN'S CALL TO ELECTIONS

PA182042 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] San Jose -- The opposition Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN], which is rebelling against the Sandinist government, today voiced its complete repudiation of the general elections announced by the Managua regime for 1985. In rejecting the call to elections, the FDN asserted that it is not a true and sincere democratic opening by the Sandinist regime, since it inhibits the opposition sectors from either voting or being elected.

The FDN spokesmen regard the call to elections as unacceptable, and have urged the world's peoples not to allow themselves to be caught off guard, either quantitatively or qualitatively, by the Marxist government's proposal. [words indistinct]

For this opposition group, everything boils down to a big fraud, which has been presented with great publicity by the Sandinist Front.

COMMENTARY CRITICIZES KISSINGER COMMISSION REPORT

PA181806 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 17 Jan 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] The U.S. Bipartisan Commission on Central America has agreed that the serious threat to U.S. security interests in Central America requires greater military aid to the area.

Though the commission's report contains four pages of conflicting opinion expressed by several of its members, the general thrust of the report is not much altered.

On one hand, it stresses the serious situation facing the Salvadoran regime and warns that it will remain serious, even with increased U.S. military aid. It concludes as well that the threat of direct U.S. military intervention in the area is a necessary factor in U.S. diplomatic efforts. Though Commission President Henry Kissinger, a former U.S. secretary of state, objected, some commission members insisted that U.S. military aid to the Salvadoran regime be linked to the improvement of the human rights situation in the country, an idea that President Reagan rejected.

On the other hand, the report fails to offer a detailed account of the needs in Honduras and Guatemala, simply recommending more aid for the former and the creation of the necessary conditions to overcome congressional objections to aid for the latter. It also calls for congressional expansion of the financing being provided the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary groups that are trying to overthrow the Sandinist revolution.

Most of the commission members argue specifically that the situation in Central America has grown so much worse that the United States cannot permit its national objectives to be paralyzed.

The area's long-term economic needs up to 1990 are estimated at $24 billion. The report calls for greater private investment in the area and recommends the expansion of the activities pursued by the so-called Peace Corps, which the CIA has often used in its hidden wars. In turn, it rejects the peace proposals put forward by the Salvadoran revolutionary forces, while reiterating its support for the regime's discredited electoral process and confirming the value of the current system for dealing with the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary groups, which couples incentives with pressure.

Although the commission was created by Reagan to promote support for his policy, internal disagreements and the seditious language used by the commission have already incited controversy both inside and outside Congress. Former Democratic Party President Roberto Strauss, has expressed concern that the report may be interpreted as preferring military aid to the need for basic reconstruction of Central American political and social institutions.

In conclusion, the so-called Kissinger commission report favors a warmongering policy toward the area's nations, presaging increased U.S. military intervention in Central America.

PCP SECRETARY GENERAL ALVARO CUNHAL ARRIVES

FL181620 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1205 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Alvaro Cunhal, secretary general of the Portuguese Communist Party [PCP], arrived last night at the invitation of Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba. Cunhal was accompanied by Jorge Araujo, member of the political commission of the PCP Secretariat.

Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member of the Politburo, member of the Secretariat, and chief of the General Department of Foreign Relations, received the visitors at the airport. Also present were Rafael Polanco, first deputy of the General Department of Foreign Relations, Javier Ardizones, section chief, and Julio Ballesta, both of the same General Department.

In a conversation with Cuban newspapermen at the airport, Portugal's top communist leader spoke on the current West European political situation. He stated that the aggressiveness of the U.S. Administration is worsening the international situation while the deployment of the new missiles in Western Europe is a blow against the struggle of the European peoples and their efforts at cooperation.

Cunhal stated that this fourth grip to Cuba has special meaning, because it will help create a closer relationship between the parties and peoples, facilitate the exchange of opinions, and make possible a joint analysis of the grave situation created by the United States in Central and Latin America.

Meets With Montane

FL190200 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Portuguese Communist Party Secretary General Alvaro Cunhal today visited the Hermanos Ameijeiras Hospital in Havana, accompanied by Dr Sergio del Valle, member of Cuba's Communist Party Politburo and minister of public health. During his stay at the hospital, Cunhal was briefed on services rendered there and observed film reports on various specialties.

Alvaro Cunhal and the delegation he heads today held a meeting with Jesus Montane, alternate member of the Politburo, member of the Central Committee Secretariat, and chief of the party's General Department of Foreign Relations. Attending the meeting were Rafael Polanco, first vice chief of the party's Foreign Relations General Department, and Javier Ardizones, chief of section.

Later in the day, Cunhal laid a floral wreath at the foot of the mounument to Cuban National Hero Jose Marti at the Plaza de la Revolucion.

The Portuguese communist leader arrived in our country last night. Upon arrival he voiced satisfaction at visiting Cuba again. Accompanying Alvaro Cunhal on his visit is Jorge Araujo, member of the Political Commission and Secretariat of the Portuguese Communist Party, who is a member of the delegation headed by Cunhal.

RODRIGUEZ MEETS WITH CEMA DELEGATION HEAD

FL181448 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has received Vladimir (Sichov), secretary of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance [CEMA].

(Sichov), who has been in our country for several days visiting places of economic and historical interest, held an extensive discussion on the subjects that will be included in the next meeting of the CEMA Executive Committee, which will be presided over by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez.

Other officials of the CEMA Secretariat participated in the talks and the work session.

SOCIALIST SCIENTIFIC ACADEMIES TO MEET IN HAVANA

FL181344 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Cuba for the first time will be the site of the important meeting held every 2 years by the socialist scientific academies. The meeting, planned for 25-27 January, will also be attended by Cuban specialists.

Among the objectives of the meeting, in which representatives from the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Poland will participate, is to analyze the political and economic problems of the underdeveloped world.

The Cuban delegation to the meeting will be headed by (Estrella Rey), doctor of historical sciences and director of the Cuban Academy of Sciences' Center for Research on Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

AALAPSO SPONSORS SALVADORAN SOLIDARITY MEETING

FL182201 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] A meeting expressing solidarity with the cause of the Salvadoran people has been held at the AALAPSO headquarters. Jorge Rodriguez, FMLN representative in Cuba, spoke in the name of this brother country. He summarized the history of the Salvadoran struggle, pointing out that on 22 January 1932 the Salvadoran people revolted against General Maximo Hernandez Martinez in a struggle that cost the lives of 30,000 patriots. He explained how the fighting tradition and unity achieved in the FMLN and FDR have made hard blows on the Salvadoran Government possible.

(Lisa Young), member of the AALAPSO Executive Secretariat, read the organization's declaration of solidarity with El Salvador.

PARTY HOLDS PROFITABILITY OF ENTERPRISES MEETING

FL161854 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] This morning the national party meeting on the profitability of production enterprises opened at the Palace of Conventions. Present at the opening session were Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of the Politburo, and other leaders of the party and government. The opening remarks were given by Julian Rizo, member of the Central Committee Secretariat.

FAR Leader Interviewed

FL162332 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Interview with Colonel Victor Bernal Leon, chief of the Political Section of the FAR's Directorate of Industrial Enterprises, by an unidentified reporter at the Palace of Conventions in Havana on 16 January -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] From the point of view of efficiency, under what conditions will the military industrial enterprises arrive at this national meeting on profitability?

[Bernal Leon] We can state that we have arrived at this national meeting on profitability after a process of examination at the local level, that is, of the local party organizations, where we analyzed the Central Committee Secretariat's examination of the enterprises' profitability.

The result is an active participation of all our militants, chiefs, and union leaders. It was found that there were some characteristic objective and subjective deficiencies which we are confronting in this profitability problem. This aside, we arrived at this date with some positive results because all our enterprises are showing profits at this time. Aside from the fact that some have better results than others, in general, we come to this national meeting on profitability with all of our enterprises showing profits.

But, apart from all the experiences we can obtain from this event and the decision that will be made by the party, I believe there is an element which will efficiently contribute to this -- this is the resolution of the 8th Central Committee Plenum. Based on this resolution, all our party organizations have analyzed all guidelines and, at this time, we are in the phase of preparing concrete plans for each of our enterprises to abide by and fulfill the guidelines put forth by the 8th Plenum.

We believe that this will contribute to making the profitability which we have attained much more efficient than it has been to date.

Commissions on Problem

FL171815 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] The various commissions of the national party meeting on the profitability [rentabilidad] of production enterprises began activities yesterday with many speeches and long discussions. This meeting will conclude at the Palace of Conventions in Havana today. The members of the commissions on the sugar, agriculture, and livestock industries and the construction, transportation, and communications sectors thoroughly analyzed the factors that cause the lack of profitability and recounted valuable experiences concerning economic efficiency.

Regarding the sugar agroindustrial sector, party members reviewed the problems, deficiencies, shortcomings, and difficulties directly or indirectly causing the lack of profitability in the enterprises of that sector. Fidel Ramos, alternate member of the Central Committee and deputy chief of the Central Committee's Sugar Sector Department, led the discussions about this important area of the country's economy. The topics included in the discussions were the incorrect application of the bonus payment system and the problems encountered in the mechanization of sugarcane harvesting. They also analyzed the low agricultural output and the insufficient exploitation of basic means, as well as the failure to use plant installations to full capacity.

Luis Martell Rosas spoke about the use of the labor force during the period the sugar harvest is not underway. He said that there is a labor potential that is not being properly used and it happens precisely at the time when sugar cane demands prompt attention.

Martell Rosas' remark prompted a long discussion about the best way to make use of the labor force and the effect this has on the profitability of enterprises.

Rolando Cubas explained the experiences of the Remberto Abat Aleman Sugar Mill of Sancti Spiritus, one of the few profitable mills in the country. Cubas noted that there is a large output at the sugar mill -- more than 80,000 arrobas in the dry lands.

He said that instead of dividing the land into sugar cane districts, they use plots directly run by the mill. He added that they have reached a high level of mechanization in the sugar harvest. During repair periods, he added, most industry workers are transferred to agricultural jobs and as supplies arrive, they are gradually sent back to the factory.

Later on, Raul Forjan of Santiago de Cuba referred to insufficient control over regulations and their integration. As an example, he said that salaries which were four times greater than the actual ones were paid at the Julio Antonio Mella sugar mill, during repair periods.

In this same commission on sugar, Lazaro Dominguez of the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] stressed the importance that the people have in the sugar cane fields to make the sector profitable, as well as on the need to have quality control in the cutting of sugar cane.

Santos Godoy of Santiago de Cuba stressed that the key aspect is to review the way everyone does his share to achieve profitability and to establish the steps necessary to reach that goal.

Jose Bardecia of Granma emphasized the importance of increasing sugar production by hectare and noted that increasing production at the sugar mills through small investments will be very beneficial to our economy.

Eugenio Mainegra, chief of the Central Committee's Basic Industry Department, led the discussion concerning industry. He said that despite all the adverse conditions the country experienced in 1983, it was the best year for the revolution in every aspect.

However, Mainegra said that we still have certain difficulties such as the fact that our production capacity is not being fully used, there is not enough technical training for the labor force, there are deficiencies in organization, and there are problems in the supply of materials. He also, among other things, mentioned surpluses in inventories and referred to violations of labor discipline and a lack of administrative flexibility.

Problems concerning planning were the topics that opened the discussions of the commission on industry, which included representatives from 60 enterprises. Several members brought up the issue of lack of measurement systems at certain ports and stores. This matter drew a lot of attention because it economically affects various enterprises.

In his speech, Manuel Millares warned of the urgent need to carry out an inventory campaign. This aspect, one of the most important issues discussed because of its effect on profitability, was supported by Alexis Cobina of the University of Havana, whom we interviewed:

[Begin Cobina recording] Through several investigations made by economics professors at various enterprises, we found that food control is one of the most important measures to increase the profitability of enterprises.

First, we must bear in mind that material consumption accounts for more than 50 percent of the enterprises' production costs. Therefore, any measure taken in this direction, directly and immediately, affect production costs and thus any profits that may be made by the enterprise. Many of our enterprises show profits, for example, in mercantile production [produccion mercantil], and even in sales. However, when the time comes for the distribution of these profits, we see that a large portion of them are lost as a result of inventory adjustments. The amount lost is unknown because of a lack of inventory control, and when this inventory is written off, the enterprise realizes that it is having losses instead of profits.

Therefore, we think that one of the key steps to increase profitability lies in the actions that an enterprise may undertake to control its inventory by not only guaranteeing the physical transfer of merchandise -- a control over their movement -- by matching the actual stock with accounting figures. In this way, the enterprise can guarantee that its cost register truly reflects the materials used and that, in addition to this, its inventory matches the balance needed to carry out its technical and economic plan. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Irma Sanchez said that the State Committee for Material and Technical Supply is involved in joint efforts with the State Committee for Labor and Social Security to find formulas so that store workers receive an adequate salary and, at the same time, reestablish the prerequisites they must meet to carry out their job.

Other commissions also made valuable assessments about the causes for a lack of profitability in enterprises. Experiences which made positive contributions to the solution of the problem were recounted.

The discussions will continue at a plenum today. It is expected that conclusions will be reached in the afternoon.

Castro Attends Closing

FL180242 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and chairman of the Councils of State and Ministers, has attended the closing session of the PCC national meeting on the profitability of production enterprises, which began yesterday at the Palace of Conventions.

This morning's session began with the reading of reports from committees which yesterday discussed the circumstances impeding a better economic efficiency.

Miguel Ramos, Roberto Martinez, Eugenio Mainegra, Juan Antonio Roque, and (Cedro Ros), representing the sugar industry, livestock-agricultural, basic industry, construction, transportation, and communications departments of the Central Committee, read a summary of the proposals made in the various committees. When this phase of the session concluded, the plenary session took up all matters discussed by the five committees into which the meeting's participants had been divided.

Party militants, enterprise managers, secretaries of committees and party nuclei, and union bureau secretaries voiced their views at the plenum on current problems impeding profitability in their respective enterprises as well as inconveniences which do not permit the full use of the enterprises' productive potential.

The depth with which the meeting's participants delved into the deficiencies was evident in all speeches made at the meeting. Also brought up was how the party organizations have been maturing in the enterprises' profitability since the implementation of the system of management and planning of the economy. The closing remarks were made by Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of the PCC Politburo, who referred to the process carried out at the rank and file and other party levels to fulfill the orders of the Central Committee Secretariat to discuss the problems affecting profitability at all enterprises. Sitting at the presiding table were Politburo members Guillermo Garcia, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, Julio Camacho Aguilera, and Osmano Cienfuegos, and Politburo alternate members Senen Casas and Roberto Veiga as well as members of the Secretariat and Central Committee.

Further on Closing

FL181606 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Excerpts] Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of the Politburo, closed the national PCC meeting on the profitability of enterprises yesterday. Machado Ventura praised the role played by party meetings held at the rank and file level in an attempt to increase the economic awareness of the working masses and the leadership cadres.

He said that an extraordinary number of suggestions, recommendations, and measures were gathered during these meetings and noted that they are a very valuable instrument for the work of the party at every level and a guideline for the work of the administrators, the local organs of the people's government, and the state's central organizations.

Machado Ventura noted that one of the main achievements of these meetings was to have included the participation of all party members on a topic which is sometimes viewed as the sole concern of specialists, accountants, and economists. He stressed that with these meetings, the analysis of the problems of the enterprises have become more comprehensive and attention has been focused on matters which impede a better use of our economy's potential reserves.

He added that another important accomplishment of this meeting was its ability to mobilize, its influence as an example, and its orientation in the direction that the main thrust of our struggle for top economic efficiency must take.

After listing the achievements of the system for the direction and planning of the economy during 1983, Machado Ventura said:

"An increase in the profits of the enterprises permits a greater accumulation of resources to expand production, to improve the people's standard of living, and to strengthen the country's defense capability."

He added that every effort to increase profitability implies a boost in production, but this must be accomplished by adhering to maximum savings in the use of supplies, as well as labor and financial resources, increasing the exploitation of means of production, and improving the quality of products.

He said that in the past few years satisfactory results have been observed in improving the economy. He stressed that productivity has been increased constantly. He noted that it grew by more than 35 percent over a period covering 1977 to 1983.

He also referred to progress made in the conservation of fuel, raw materials, and other items.

"In the recent 8th Plenum of the PCC Central Committee it was noted that the results of 1983 create conditions to establish new, higher goals in various areas of the economy and in the social development contained in the national economic plan for 1984 and the program of measures drafted to guarantee its implementation. The 8th Plenum issued a call for greater efficiency by lowering the per peso cost of the gross output and increasing the profitability of the social product [produccion social] thus permitting a noticeable decline in the number of unprofitable enterprises."

Machado Ventura stressed that the party's rank and file organizations must continue to work to achieve profitability in the enterprises with maximum dedication and exigency.

Party members, UJC [Union of Young Communists] members, members of all our unions and mass organizations, administrative leaders and cadres, let's move forward, together with our hard-working people, in our all-out-struggle against squandering resources, wasting of work time, against the excess of personnel at plants, and any sign of bureaucracy and unnecessary paperwork. Let's move on in the struggle to increase productivity and agricultural output, to conserve energy, fuel, raw materials, and other supplies; to eliminate excess inventories, and to better control them.

"In sum, let's move forward in the struggle for a reduction in production costs and an increase in profitability. Let's make our economy an example of efficiency and, together with this, let's make the slogan 'production and defense' a concrete and invincible reality jointly with the organization of the territorial troops' militias and our people's growing military training. [applause]

MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISE DEDICATED

FL161450 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] The Major Jose Sierra Ramos Military-Industrial Enterprise was dedicated during a ceremony presided over by Division General Senan Casas Regueiro, alternate member of the Politburo and first deputy minister of the FAR [primer sustituto del ministro de la FAR]. The main speaker at the event was Colonel Ramon Andollo, chief of a directorate at the FAR Ministry.

Officers and civilian workers of the new enterprise were decorated with the FAR Distinguished Service medal. Other comrades received gifts and leave days for the good work they had performed.

A bust was unveiled at the entrance of the enterprise perpetuating the memory of Major Jose Sierra Ramos who died heroically fulfilling his internationalist mission in Angola.

A friendship tree was planted by a Soviet military expert and a FAR officer.

The first half of the new military enterprise cost more than 8 million pesos, and when completely finished the investment will cost 12 million pesos.

[Begin Andollo recording] This investment will permit an increase in and the consolidation of the troops' fighting ability because the enterprise, producting at full capacity, will meet the needs of the FAR's engineering sector. [end recording]

This is what Col Andollo said in his speech. He added that the inauguration of these important installations is merely the starting point for bigger goals and that there is still much to be done not only in its operation but in the completion of the project.

Andollo thanked, on behalf of the FAR, the men and women who made the construction and assembly of this enterprise possible through their hard work over the past few years.

CHILEAN OFFICER REQUESTS ASYLUM IN ARGENTINA

PA190426 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] It has been reported in Buenos Aires that a Chilean Air Force member has requested asylum in Mendoza Province, where he arrived 20 days ago as a tourist. The officer, Lieutenant Barrera, said he made this decision because he was being constantly watched by members of the Chilean intelligence service for constantly criticizing Augusto Pinochet's regime.

Meanwhile, Manuel Bustos, the president of the National Labor Coordinating Board, has confirmed the decision to carry out a national strike next May to protest tyranny in the country. During a press conference held in Santiago de Chile, Bustos offered details of the so-called May plan, organized by the Confederation of Copper Workers. The plan includes partial mobilizations that will end with a national strike by the union and student sectors.

COLOMBIA'S LLOREDA CAICEDO SCORES KISSINGER REPORT

PA181637 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo has said he is concerned about the recommendations for increased military aid to Central America that were included in the report prepared by the Bipartisan Commission led by former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. In a telephone interview for Radio Sandino, Lloreda Caicedo stressed that these recommendations contradict the Contadora Group countries' efforts to promote an arms reduction in Central America.

The Colombian foreign minister indicated that the generous U.S. support for the Salvadoran regime does not correspond to that country's true needs, adding that El Salvador really needs hospitals, schools, and anything that can help to achieve a more satisfactory standard of living.

He said that elections in Nicaragua are a very positive contribution to a reduction of tensions and the establishment of conditions permitting the Central American peoples to coexist in peace. The political opening in Nicaragua, he added, helps to create a more favorable atmosphere for the development of the region and to prevent the growth of conflicts.

ECUADORAN FOREIGN MINISTRY REPORTS CLASH WITH PERU

PA170452 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] The Ecuadoran Defense Ministry has reported that one soldier was killed and another wounded in a clash that took place yesterday between Ecuadoran and Peruvian troops on the border shared by the two countries. The ministry reported that the incident took place when Peruvian soldiers fired at the military detachment in the Ecuadoran town of Corriente. The Ecuadoran Defense Ministry communique adds that the Peruvian Foreign Ministry has already been briefed on this incident so as to allow it to formulate an appropriate response.

DOMINICA

PRIME MINISTER CHARLES VIEWS OECS, CARICOM

FL161756 Bridgetown CANA in English 1659 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Jan 16 (CANA) -- Dominica's Prime Minister Eugenia Charles says she expects relations among member countries of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) to improve further this year.

Speaking during a two-hour radio programme, Miss Charles, who is the current chairperson of the OECS, said that 1984 will see the seven member states working much closer than they had done over the past years.

"I believe in 1984 we are going to have much closer bonds in every way. I see a desire, a willingness to work together as an OECS group," she said.

The OECS gained worldwide attention last year when it requested and received the help of the U.S., Barbados, and Jamaica in invading Grenada.

Regarding the wider Caribbean Community (Caricom), Miss Charles said yesterday, "...we have to look at Caricom. I am quite sure it will remain." But she warned that "it requires work and a lot of goodwill on the part of each member for it to work because it is a trading agreement."

The Dominican prime minister said that the events in the region last year -- an apparent reference to a political crisis in Grenada and trade problems in several countries -- "made it clear to us (in the OECS) the closer we work together the better for all of us."

She added: "I think there will be a tightening of the bonds in 1984. We have in fact common ideas, I think in all the islands, regarding foreign affairs."

Miss Charles said that as far as she was concerned Caricom was a "trading organisation" and that foreign affairs matters were not the principle reasons for the establishment of the organisation.

"I have never been keen on saying that there was any foreign relations involvement as far as Caricom is concerned. I consider Caricom a trading organisation and I have refused to ever attend a meeting of ministers of foreign affairs of Caricom," she said, adding: "I think it is unnecessary."

She said that Caricom should be reviewed "because we have found difficulties, ever since we have been in government, in the trading part of Caricom."

She said that a concerted effort must be made in 1984 to improve the marketing relations within the region, while noting that all states were beginning to produce the same things. She said Trinidad and Tobago wanted to improve its agricultural production and that Dominica had "never been able to make a big impression there" with regards to selling agricultural produce.

GOVERNMENT DENIES DLP CHARGES OF ARMS BUILDUP

FL171816 Bridgetown CANA in English 1637 GMT 17 Jan 84

[By Peter Richards]

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Jan 17, CANA -- The Dominica Government today dismissed "as a tissue of lies" allegations by the opposition Dominica Labour Party (DLP) that Washington was supplying the island with sophisticated weapons, including surface-to-air missiles.

Prime Minister and Minister of Security Eugenia Charles confirmed that the U.S. was providing Dominica with arms.

"It is true that guns have come in for the training of the policemen, but there is no question of an arms build up of sophisticated weaponry," Miss Charles said.

Yesterday, DLP leader and former Prime Minister Oliver Seraphine made the allegations at a news conference. He charged that the U.S. was providing Dominica with over three million U.S. dollars worth of weapons and equipment and Washington was setting up military installations on the island.

"The story of an arms build up in dominica is being fabricated by a party with nothing to offer this country but a tissue of lies having failed in their turn to provide the fruits of good government," Miss Charles said.

She recalled that late last year her government had told Parliament of the training of the police force under the U.S. military assistance programme. This training, Miss Charles said, was aimed at ensuring that the country was able to withstand any attack internally or externally.

She said that the training "is to enusre they (the police) will be able to withstand the adverse onslaught of persons like those who, with the help of mercenaries, attempted to overthrow her government by force of arms in 1981."

Since coming to power in 1980, the government faced two unsuccessful attempts to remove it from power by force of arms. Last year, a high court judge sentenced six former Defence Force soldiers to death for the murder of a policeman during one such attempt.

"People have to be secured and safe in this country," Miss Charles said, adding that the military installations the opposition spoke of is "a practice range prepared away from habitation" for the policemen.

The U.S. is providing military training to Dominica and other Caribbean nations that participated in the U.S.-led invasion of Grenada last October.

GRENADA

CCL LEADER SAYS GRENADIANS 'WELCOMED' INVASION

FL190046 Bridgetown CANA in English 0010 GMT 19 Jan 84

[By Alister Hughes]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Jan 18 (CANA) -- A delegation from the Caribbean Congress of Labour (CCL) is now on a fact-finding mission to Grenada following last year's political unrest that triggered a U.S.-led military intervention here.

Delegation spokesman and CCL President Leonard Archer, in an interview today, expressed concern over the state of the Grenada trade union movement after four-and-a-half years of leftist rule.

"The first impression we have," he said, "is that there is a leadership void, that the trade unions had been infiltrated by the (recently deposed) People's Revolutionary Government and that they had grown accustomed to a certain amount of direction and there was fear they could not function freely."

Archer said some of the leadership had "disappeared" and some had been killed in the October 1983 "massacre" here.

Th CCL delegation feels the Grenada trade unions will now have to regroup and get back to functioning as a free, independent movement, he said.

Archer said: As far as the United States intervention is concerned, CCL regretted the military action and took the position that there ought to have been more time given for the Grenadian people to solve their own problem.

U.S. and Caribbean forces invaded Grenada October 25 after Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and at least 16 other people were killed in a military coup here six days earlier.

"On a matter of principle," Archer said, " we feel that an outside force coming into a country to solve the problem is not the way international relations ought to be conducted."

The CCL president said his delegation now knows that the people of Grenada actually welcomed the intervention by the American forces and will communicate this "strong feeling" to CCL and its affiliates.

"I feel certain that, in the light of that, we will, perhaps, revise our stand we took," Archer said.

The facts gathered by the mission will be reported to CCL and its affiliates, the president said, along with a report on conditions in Grenada and the state of the trade union movement.

The mission will also make recommendations as to what the CCL can do to help strengthen Grenada's labour movement.

Archer said there was urgent need to have a strong trade union movement in Grenada to protect workers against new investors who might be looking to employ cheap labour.

The other members of the delegation are Joseph Pollydore of Guyana, CCL Secretary General Kirtist Augustus, Enzo Friso, representing the International Federation of Free Trade Unions and Luis Anderson, general secretary of the Inter-American Regional Organisation of Workers.

The team has already had discussions with local labour leaders and with the rank and file of trade unions, Government General Sir Paul Scoon, Nicholas Brathwaite, chairman of the advisory council, and Mrs Joan Purcell, the council member responsible for labour affairs.

"We have, of course," Archer said, "taken the opportunity to talk to people as we meet them on the street, taxi drivers and so on, because we feel the need to talk to as wide a cross section of the people as possible, so that we can get a better feel of, not only the leadership, but what the average Grenadian thinks about what has happened in his country."

Grenada is now being financed by the advisory council pending general elections before yearend.

STUDENTS LEAVE STUDIES IN CUBA, RETURN TO GRENADA

FL180150 Bridgetown CANA in English 2232 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Jan 17 (CANA) -- Sixty-one Grenadians who were studying in Cuba have returned home voluntarily, an education official said today.

The official, who declined to be named, said the government had facilitated the return of 56 of the students -- 30 returned in December, 26 did so last Thursday.

The other five made their own way back.

The government is making arrangements to have the students, none of whom completed their courses, continue their education at regional and other institutions. This will be done with financial aid from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The Grenadians were studying a wide range of technical and professional fields including medicine and agronomy under scholarships arranged by the deposed People's Revolutionary Government (PRG).

The interim government had said it would contact all Grenadian students in East bloc countries to see if they wish to return to Grenada following last October's U.S.-led invasion of the island to remove a short-lived left-wing military government.

The army had overthrown the Marxist (PRG) regime of Maurice Bishop who was killed in the coup. Bishop had cultivated close ties with Cuba and Soviet bloc states.

Grenada has since broken diplomat relations with Moscow and placed its ties with Cuba on ice.

Regarding those Grenadian students behind the Iron Curtain, the official said efforts were made to contact students in Moscow and East Berlin through British embassies, but none had returned. At last count, 14 Grenadians were said to be attending courses in the Soviet Union and 18 in East Germany.

"It would appear that some students would like to finish their studies before returning," the official said.

He said that those who returned from Cuba have stated that others in Havana were willing to return to Grenada if transportation was provided.

JAMAICA

SEAGA SPURNS APPEALS FOR EARLY ELECTIONS

FL180050 Bridgetown CANA in English 2346 GMT 17 Jan 84

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 17, CANA -- Jamaica Prime Minister Edward Seaga indicated again today that he will not bow to pressure to call an early general election.

Seaga made his remarks at the first working session of the House of Representatives, where his Jamaica Labour Party controls all 60 seats following a boycott of last month's elections by the main opposition People's National Party (PNP).

The PNP and some civil organizations have called on Seaga to return to the polls when electoral reforms demanded by the PNP had been put in place.

In his speech Seaga referred to those "who still maintain that a government without an election opposition lacks legitimacy" and had called for an urgent vote to rectify the situation. But, said a defiant Seaga, "let me warn that this argument is not only dangerous, it is invalid. If all this is required to abrogate the legitimacy of a government were the non-participation by a major political party in the process of elections, then it would be the opposition and not the government that determined if and when elections are held -- a course that no government could accept because it would imply an abdication from its authority and by extension its responsibility."

"To indulge such persons in the fantasy that they merit our concern and must be heeded in their demand that elections be called on time tables of their own, is to pursue a path which like nothing else that may be practised, will mark the end of parliamentary government as we know it," he declared.

Stressing that the Jamaica Constitution did not recognize political parties but parliamentarians who formed a government, Seaga said that "what we must do, is to encourage parties outside the parliamentary system to follow the only legitimate course to success by winning public support, contest elections and thereby gaining constitutional access to political power." Recent opinion polls here showed that 70 per cent of Jamaicans wanted new elections when a new voters list was ready this year, and that the PNP would win if there was an updated register. In addition to adjustments to the electoral list the PNP also wants implementation of anti-fraud procedures to compensate for the absence of an official opposition.

Seaga has appointed eight independents to the Senate to sit on the opposition benches, and has also announced that interest groups and individuals who had an interest in legislation before the House of Representatives would be allowed to appear at the bar of Parliament. In outlining how the latter system would work, Seaga said today that the government had decided to accord the equivalent of 15 seats to spokesmen from the public by providing any number of speakers to that maximum to make presentations on bills or motions before the house or to submit petitions.

He said that members of the public wishing to present their viewpoints on matters to be debated on the house of by way of petition would submit these presentations in writing to the speaker who would ensure that they conformed with parliamentary procedures.

The standing orders (rules governing parliamentary procedures) would be amended so that the public who may be now "summoned" to the bar of the house would in the future be "invited" to make presentations to the house.

Seaga said that submissions would be made when the house resolved itself in a committee to deal with bills clause by clause.

Presentations from the public will be up to 15 minutes for the reading of written submissions, with the house having the right to allow for a futher period for oral amplification. Seaga said.

The public will also have opportunities to appear, as at present, before select committees of Parliament, and also to submit resolutions for debate on matters of national interest.

The prime minister said too that the procedures governing debate will be altered to allow, except in cases of emergency, a minimum of two weeks before the tabling of bills or resolutions and debate "to enable those who wish to participate to have adequate time for preparation."

UNREST SUBSIDES; BANK EMPLOYEES RESUME WORK

FL190024 Bridgetown CANA in English 1904 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, Jan 18, CANA -- Industrial unrest aimed at forcing Suriname's military rulers out of power continued to decelerate today with more bank workers returning to their jobs.

The official Suriname News Agency (SNA) said employees of the Dutch ABN bank were now back on the job. Employees of the other four banks here ended their strike earlier this week, SNA reported.

Up to yesterday the ABN bank was offering only a withdrawal and deposit service as its management staff manned the operation.

Bauxite workers who went on strike last month were still off the job today, and the U.S.-owned Suriname Aluminium Company (SURALCO) remained closed.

SNA said representatives of the C-47 trade union grouping would hold discussions tomorrow with SURALCO's employees on the industrial unrest, which started after sharp tax increases.

The increases have been cancelled by the military rulers, but the strikers are sticking to demands for an end to military rule, a return to democracy and reinstatment of the Constitution, suspended in 1980 after a coup led by army strongman Deysi Bouterse.

Buses Confiscated, Permits Revoked

FL171255 Hilversum International Service in English 0730 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] The military authorities in Suriname, the former Dutch colony at the top of Latin America, have confiscated 60 buses and revoked their owners' transport permits. The move was in reaction to the private bus company's strike proclaimed on Monday in support of the bauxite workers' strike.

The military leaders have also announced that they will deal severely with students who go to schools other than their own with a view to encouraging fellow students to stay away from classes.

The current agitation in Suriname seeks to promote a return to civilian rule. The management of the SURALCO [Suriname Aluminum Company] Bauxite Company, the country's biggest earner of foreign exchange, has promised to make serious efforts to get production going again. This was announced by the C-47 Trade Union leader Fred Durby following talks at the company's headquarters. Mr Durby stated that it should be possible to resume normal working by the start of next week.